

FORM PTO-1390 U S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (REV 5-93)		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 0609.4370001/RWE/RM
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 371		U S APPLICATION NO (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 C.F.R. § 1.5) To Be Assigned 09/380203
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO PCT/US98/03685	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE February 26, 1998	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED February 26, 1997
TITLE OF INVENTION Transgenic Animals and Cell Lines for Screening Drugs Effective for the Treatment or Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Suzanne De La Monte and Jack R. Wands		
<p>Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. § 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. § 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). <input type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(2)). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(3)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. § 372(c)(3)). <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(4)). <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(5)). <p>Items 11. to 16. below concern other document(s) or information included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and 1.98. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 3.28 and 3.31 is included. <input type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) Authorization to Treat a Reply As Incorporating An Extension of Time (in duplicate). 		

426 Rec'd PCT/PTO 26 AUG 1999

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.50)

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

To Be Assigned

PCT/U98/03685

0609.4370001/RWE/RM

17. ☒ The following fees are submitted:

CALCULATIONS

PTO USE ONLY

Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):

Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO \$840.00

International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) . \$670.00

No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) \$760.00

Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$970.00

International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4) \$96.00

ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT

= \$ 670.00

Surcharge of **\$130.00** for furnishing the oath or declaration later than ☐ 20 ☒ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).

\$ 130.00

Claims

Number Filed

Number Extra

Rate

Total Claims

38 - 20 =

18

X \$18.00

\$ 324.00

Independent Claims

7 - 3 =

4

X \$78.00

\$ 312.00

Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable) 1

+ \$260.00

\$ 260.00

TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS

= \$ 1,696.00

Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity statement must be filed. (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28)

\$

SUBTOTAL

= \$ 1,696.00

Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).

\$

TOTAL NATIONAL FEE

= \$

Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property

\$

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED

= \$ 1,696.00

Amount to be:
refunded

\$

charged

\$

a. ☒ A check in the amount of \$1,696.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.b. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.c. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.**NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit Under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.**SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.1100 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934Robert W. Esmond

Signature

Robert W. Esmond

Type Name

32,893

Registration Number

Aug 26, 1999

Date

005440 "C0208260"

Statement Claiming Small Entity Status
(37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9(e) and 1.27(d)) -- Nonprofit Organization

Applicant or Patentee: Suzanne De La Monte and Jack R. Wands

Appl. or Patent No.: To Be Assigned (U.S. National Phase of PCT/US98/03685) Attorney Docket No. 0609.4370001/RWE/RM

Filed or Issued: Int'l Filing Date: February 26, 1998

For: Transgenic Animals and Cell Lines for Screening Drugs Effective for the Treatment of Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease

I hereby state that I am an official empowered to act on behalf of the nonprofit organization identified below:

NAME OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION The General Hospital Corporation

ADDRESS OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION Fruit Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114

TYPE OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

- ☐ University or other institution of higher education
- ☒ Tax exempt under Internal Revenue Service Code (26 U.S.C. §§ 501(a) and 501(c)(3))
- ☐ Nonprofit scientific or educational under statute of state of The United States of America
(Name of state _____)
(Citation of statute _____)
- ☐ Would qualify as tax exempt under Internal Revenue Service Code (26 U.S.C. §§ 501(a) and 501(c)(3)) if located in The United States of America
- ☐ Would qualify as nonprofit scientific or educational under statute of state of The United States of America if located in The United States of America
(Name of state _____)
(Citation of statute _____)

I hereby state that the nonprofit organization identified above qualifies as a nonprofit organization as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(e) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office regarding the invention described in:

- ☐ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.
- ☒ the application identified above.
- ☐ the patent identified above.

I hereby state that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the nonprofit organization regarding the above identified invention. If the rights held by the nonprofit organization are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention must file a separate statement indicating their status as small entities and that no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization having any rights in the invention (other than the nonprofit organization named above) is listed below:

- ☐ no such person, concern, or organization exists.
- ☒ each such person, concern, or organization is listed below:

NAME Nymox Corp.

ADDRESS 9900 Cavendish Boulevard, Suite 306, St.-Laurent, Quebec H4M 2V2, CANADA

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☒ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b)).

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING DAVID J. GLASS, Ph.D.
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR PATENTS
OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY AFFAIRS

TITLE IN ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING 13th Street Building 109, Suite 1101, Charlestown, MA 02129

SIGNATURE [Signature]

DATE 8/31/99

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

1100 New York Avenue, N.W. • Suite 600 • Washington, DC 20005-3934 • (202) 371-2600

Sep-07-99 09:46 NYMOX CORP.

514 332 2227

P.07

Statement Claiming Small Entity Status
(37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9(d) and 1.27(c)) -- Small Business Concern

Applicant, Patentee or Identifier: Suzanne De La Monte and Jack R. WandsAppl. or Patent No.: By Assignment (U.S. National Phase of PCT/US98/03685) Attorney Docket No. 0609 4370001/RWE/RMFiled or Issued: Int'l Filing Date: February 26, 1998Title: Transgenic Animals and Cell Lines for Screening Drugs Effective for the Treatment or Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease

I hereby state that I am:

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below;
☒ an officer of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below;

NAME OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN: Nymox Corp.ADDRESS OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN: 9900 Cavendish Boulevard, Suite 306, St.-Laurent, Quebec H4M 2V2, CANADA

I hereby state that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 C.F.R. Part 121 for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Questions related to size standards for a small business concern may be directed to Small Business Administration, Size Standards Staff, 409 Third Street, SW, Washington, DC 20416.

I hereby state that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention described in:

- ☐ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above;
☒ the application identified above;
☐ the patent identified above;

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention must file separate statements indicating their status as small entities, and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(c) if that person made the invention or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization having any rights in the invention (other than the small business concern named above) is listed below:

- ☐ no such person, concern, or organization exists.
☒ the person, concern, or organization is listed below

NAME OF: General Hospital CorporationADDRESS: Fruit Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114☐ INDIVIDUAL☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN☒ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Separate statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 C.F.R. § 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to payment or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b))

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING: JACK GEMMELLTITLE OF PERSON OTHER THAN OWNER: GENERAL COUNSELADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING: 9900 CAVENDISH BLVD., SUITE 306, ST.-LAURENT, QC H4M 2V2SIGNATURE: JRGDATE: 7/9/99

CANADA

Sept-7, 1999

09380203-042590

**Transgenic Animals and Cell Lines for Screening Drugs
Effective for the Treatment or Prevention of Alzheimer's
Disease**

Background of the Invention

5

***Statement as to Rights to Inventions Made Under
Federally-Sponsored Research and Development***

10 This invention was made with U.S. Government support under grant nos.
CA-35711, AA-00026 and AA-002169, awarded by the National Institutes of
Health. The U.S. Government has certain rights in this invention.

Field of the Invention

15 The present invention is in the field of genetic engineering and molecular
biology. In particular, the invention is directed to transgenic animals and
transfected cell lines expressing a protein associated with Alzheimer's Disease,
neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas, and glioblastomas. This
invention is also directed to the use of such transgenic animals and transfected cell
20 lines to screen potential drug candidates for treating or preventing Alzheimer's
disease. The invention also relates to new antisense oligonucleotides, ribozymes,
triplex forming DNA and external guide sequences that can be used to treat or
prevent Alzheimer's disease.

Related Art

25 Alzheimer's disease (AD) (Khachaturian, Z.S., "Diagnosis of Alzheimer's
Disease," *Arch. Neurol.* 421:1097-1105 (1985)) is the most prevalent
neurodegenerative disease and the most common cause of dementia in the Western

-2-

hemisphere. AD neurodegeneration is characterized by prominent atrophy of corticolimbic structures with neuronal loss, neurofibrillary tangle formation, aberrant proliferation of neurites, senile plaques, and β A4-amyloid deposition in the brain (Khachaturian, Z.S.). Approximately 90 percent of AD occurs sporadically. The cause is unknown, but the most important overall risk factor is aging (Takman, A., "Epidemiology of Alzheimer's Disease. Issues of Etiology and Validity," *Acta Neurol. Scand. Suppl.* 145:1-70 (1993)). The apolipoprotein ϵ 4 genotype (Corder, E.H. *et al.*, "Gene Does of Apolipoprotein E Type 4 Allele and the Risk of Alzheimer's Disease in Late Onset Families," *Science* 261:921-923 (1993)) and a family history of Trisomy 21 Down syndrome (Lai, F. and Williams, R.S., "A Prospective Study of Alzheimer Disease in Down Syndrome," *Arch. Neurol.* 46:849-853 (1989) increase risk or accelerate the course of sporadic AD. Familial forms of AD, which account for 5 to 10 percent of the cases, have been linked to mutations in the amyloid precursor protein (APP) gene (Kennedy, A.M. *et al.*, "Familial Alzheimer's Disease. A Pedigree With a Mis-Sense Mutation in the Amyloid Precursor Protein Gene (Amyloid Precursor Protein 717 Valine --> Glycine." *Brain* 309-324 (1993); Peacock, M.L. *et al.*, "Novel Amyloid Precursor Protein Gene Mutation (Codon 665Asp) in a Patient with Late-Onset Alzheimer's Disease," *Ann. Neurol.* 35:432-438 (1994); Tanzi, R.E. *et al.*, "Assessment of Amyloid Beta-Protein Precursor Gene Mutations in a Large Set of Familial and Sporadic Alzheimer's Disease Cases," *Am. J. Hum. Genet.* 51:273-282 (1992)) located on Chromosome 21 (Robakis, N.K. *et al.*, Chromosome 21q21 Sublocalization of Gene Encoding Beta-Amyloid Peptide in Cerebral Vessels and Neuritic (Senile) Plaques of People with Alzheimer Disease and Down Syndrome," *Lancet* 1:384-385 (1987)), or presenilin genes located on Chromosomes 1 and 14 (Levy-Lahad, E. *et al.*, "Candidate Gene for the Chromosome 1 Familial Alzheimer's Disease Locus," *Science* 18:973-977 (1995); Sorbi, S. *et al.*, "Missense Mutation of S182 Gene in Italian Families With Early Onset Alzheimer's Disease," *Lancet* 346:439-440 (1995); Sherrington, R. *et al.*, "Cloning of a Gene Bearing Missense Mutations in Early-Onset Familial

Alzheimer's Disease, *Nature* 375:754-760 (1995); Rogaev, E.I. *et al.*, "Familial Alzheimer's Disease in Kindreds With Missense Mutations in a Gene on Chromosome 1 Related to the Alzheimer's Disease Type 3 Gene," *Nature* 376:775-778 (1995); Barinaga, M. *et al.*, "Candidate Gene for the Chromosome 1 Familial Alzheimer's Disease Locus," *Science* 269:973-977 (1995)). Over-expression and abnormal cleavage of APP may promote AD neurodegeneration since all individuals with Trisomy 21 Down syndrome who survive beyond the fourth decade develop AD with extensive central nervous system (CNS) accumulations of β A4-amyloid (Lai, F. and Williams, R.S., "A Prospective Study of Alzheimer Disease in Down Syndrome," *Arch. Neurol.* 46:849-853 (1989)), and experimentally, β A4-amyloid is neurotoxic and apoptogenic (LaFerla, F.M. *et al.*, "The Alzheimer's A Beta Peptide Induces Neurodegeneration and Apoptotic Cell Death in Transgenic Mice," *Nat. Genet.* 9:21-30 (1995). In addition, missense mutations in presenilin 1, as occurs in nature, cause vasculopathy and massive accumulations of peptides in the brain (Lemere, C.A. *et al.*, "The E280A Presenilin 1 Alzheimer Mutation Produces Increased A β 42 Deposition and Severe Cerebellar Pathology," *Nature Med.* 2:1146-1150 (1996); Mann, D.M. *et al.*, "Amyloid Beta Protein (A β) Deposition in Chromosome 14-Linked Alzheimer's Disease: Predominance of A β 42(43)," *Ann Neurol.* 40:149-156 (1996)).

Central nervous system biochemical and molecular abnormalities identified in AD include: 1) increased phosphorylation of *tau* and other cytoskeletal proteins in neurons (Grundke-Iqbal, I. *et al.*, "Abnormal Phosphorylation of the Microtubule-Associated Protein τ (tau) in Alzheimer Cytoskeletal Pathology," *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 83:4913-4917 (1986)); 2) aberrant expression of genes modulated with neuritic sprouting such as the growth associated protein, GAP-43 (de la Monte, S.M. *et al.*, "Aberrant GAP-43 Gene Expression in Alzheimer's Disease," *Am. J. Pathol.* 147:934-946 (1995)), constitutive endothelial nitric oxide synthase (de la Monte, S.M. and Bloch, K.D. "Aberrant Expression of the Constitutive Endothelial Nitric Oxide Synthase Gene in

Alzheimer's Disease," *Molecular and Chemical Neuropathy* 29: (in press))
transforming growth factor β (Peress, N.S. and Perillo, E., "Differential
Expression of TGF-beta 1, 2, and 3 Isotypes in Alzheimer's Disease: a
Comparative Immunohistochemical Study With Cerebral Infarction, Aged Human
5 and Mouse Control Brains," *J. Neuropathol. Exp. Neurol.* 54: 802-811 (1995)),
and metallothionein-3 (Aschner, M. "The Functional Significance of Brain
Metallothioneins," *Faseb. J.* 10:1129-1136 (1996)); 3) increased expression of
genes associated with glial cell activation, such as glial fibrillary acidic protein
(Goodison, K.L. *et al.*, "Neuronal and Glial Gene Expression in Neocortex of
10 Down's Syndrome," *J. Neuropathol. Exp. Neurol.* 52:192-198 (1993)) and
alpha-1 antichymotrypsin (Pasternack, J.M. *et al.*, "Astrocytes in Alzheimer's
Disease Gray Matter Express Alpha 1-Antichymotrypsin mRNA," *Am. J. Path.*
135:827-834 (1989); and 4) altered expression of genes that protect neurons from
either cytotoxic or programmed cell death, including sulfated glycoprotein-2
15 (May, P.C. *et al.*, "Dynamics of Gene Expression for a Hippocampal Glycoprotein
Elevated in Alzheimer's Disease and in Response to Experimental Lesions in Rat,"
Neuron 5:831-839 (1990), cathepsin D (Cataldo, A.M. *et al.*, "Gene Expression
and Cellular Content of Cathepsin D in Alzheimer's Disease Brain: Evidence for
Early Up-Regulation of the Endosomal-Lysosomal System," *Neuron* 14:671-680
20 (1995)), superoxide dismutase 1 (Somerville, M.J. *et al.*, "Localization and
Quantitation of 68 kDA Neurofilament and Superoxide Dismutase-1 mRNA in
Alzheimer Brains, *Brain Res. Mol. Brain Res.* 9:1-8 (1991), mitochondrial
cytochrome oxidase (Chandrasekaran, K. *et al.*, "Impairment in Mitochondrial
Cytochrome Oxidase Gene Expression In Alzheimer Disease," *Brain Res. Mol.*
25 *Brain. Res.* 24:336-340 (1994)), C1q component of complement (Fischer, B. *et*
al., "Complement C1q and C3 mRNA Expression in the Frontal Cortex of
Alzheimer's Patients," *J. Mol. Med.* 73:465-471 (1995)), Calbindin D28k
(Yamagishi, M. *et al.*, "Ontogenetic Expression of Spot 35 Protein
(Calbindin-D28k) in Human Olfactory Receptor Neurons and its Decrease in
30 Alzheimer's Disease Patients," *Ann. Ontol. Rhinol. Laryngol.* 105:132-139

(1996), and bcl-2 (O'Barr, S. *et al.*, "Expression of the Protooncogene bcl-2 in Alzheimer's Disease Brain," *Neurobiol. Aging* 17:131-136 (1996).

In previous studies, we demonstrated increased immunoreactivity in AD brains using a polyclonal antisera prepared against a pancreatic protein (Ozturk, M. *et al.*, "Elevated Levels of an Exocrine Pancreatic Secretory Protein in Alzheimer's Disease Brain," *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 86:419-423 (1989); de la Monte, S.M. *et al.*, "Enhanced Expression of an Exocrine Pancreatic Protein in Alzheimer's Disease and the Developing Human Brain," *J. Clin. Invest.* 86:1004-1013 (1990); WO90/06993). Using such polyclonal antibodies, we isolated the AD7c-NTP cDNA from an AD brain expression library (WO94/23756). In WO94/23756, this clone is also referred to as AD10-7, which was deposited in DH1 cells at the ATCC under accession no. 69262. The nucleotide sequence of this cDNA is shown in Fig. 16R of WO94/23756. However, this sequence comprises numerous errors. See also WO96/15272 (Seq. ID No. 120, pages 168-170), which also comprises numerous errors. As a result, the predicted amino acid sequence (Seq. ID No. 121; WO96/15272) is also wrong.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention is related to transgenic animals and cell lines which over express the AD7c-NTP and use thereof to screen candidate drugs for use in the treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease, neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas and glioblastomas.

In particular, the invention relates to a DNA construct, wherein said DNA construct comprises a DNA molecule having Seq. ID No. 1 or a DNA sequence at least 40% homologous thereto, or a fragment thereof. Preferably, the DNA molecule is under control of a heterologous, neuro-specific promoter.

The invention also relates to cell lines containing the DNA construct of the invention.

The invention also relates to transgenic non-human animals which comprise the DNA construct of the invention. Preferably, the transgenic animals over-express AD7c-NTP.

The invention also relates to an *in vitro* method for screening candidate drugs that are potentially useful for the treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease, neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas, and glioblastomas, which comprises

(a) contacting a candidate drug with a host transfected with a DNA construct, wherein the DNA construct comprises a DNA molecule of Seq. ID No. 1 or a DNA molecule at least 40% homologous thereto, or a fragment thereof, and wherein said host over expresses the protein coded for by said DNA molecule, and

(b) detecting at least one of the following:

- (i) the suppression or prevention of expression of the protein;
- (ii) the increased degradation of the protein; or
- (iii) the reduction of frequency of at least one of neuritic sprouting, nerve cell death, degenerating neurons, neurofibrillary tangles, or irregular swollen neurites and axons in the host;

due to the drug candidate compared to a control host that has not received the candidate drug.

In a preferred embodiment, the host is a transgenic animal. In another preferred embodiment, the host is a cell *in vitro*.

The invention is also directed to antisense oligonucleotides which are complementary to an NTP nucleic acid sequence and which is nonhomologous to PTP nucleic acid sequences and that correspond to regions that were incorrectly sequenced in the past, as well as pharmaceutical compositions comprising such oligonucleotides and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

The invention is also directed to ribozymes comprising a target sequence which is complementary to an NTP sequence and nonhomologous to PTP nucleic acid sequences and that correspond to regions that were incorrectly sequenced in

the past, as well as pharmaceutical compositions comprising such ribozymes and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

The invention is also directed to oligodeoxynucleotides that form triple stranded regions with the AD7c-NTP gene, which are nonhomologous to PTP nucleic acid sequences, and that correspond to regions that were incorrectly sequenced in the past, as well as pharmaceutical compositions comprising such oligodeoxynucleotides and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

The invention is also directed to a method of achieving pharmaceutical delivery of the antisense oligonucleotides, ribozymes and triple helix oligonucleotides to the brain through acceptable carriers or expression vectors.

The invention is also directed to the therapeutic use of the antisense oligonucleotides, ribozymes and triple helix oligonucleotides to modify or improve dementias of the Alzheimer's type of neuronal degeneration; as well as to treat or prevent neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas, and glioblastomas.

Brief Description of the Figures

Fig. 1 depicts the nucleotide and translated amino acid sequence (Seq ID Nos. 1 and 2) of the AD7c-NTP cDNA. The shaded region corresponds to the nucleic acid sequences detected in 6 AD brains by RT-PCR analysis of mRNA. The cDNA exhibits significant homology with Alu gene, and to an unknown gene in the Huntington region, Chromosome 4q16.3 (underlined). The open reading frame begins with the first methionine codon. The translated amino acid sequence encodes a 41.3 kD protein with a hydrophobic leader sequence (*italics*) followed by a myristoylation motif (***bold, italics***) and potential AI cleavage site. That same region (*italics, underlined*) exhibits significant homology with the insulin/IGF-1 chimeric receptor. There are 17 potential glycogen synthase kinase-3, protein kinase C, or cAMP or Ca-dependent kinase II phosphorylation motifs and one transforming growth factor (tgf) motif (double underlined). The embolded amino acid sequences exhibit significant homology with the A4 alternatively spliced

-8-

mutant form of NF2, β subunit of integrin, and human decay accelerating factor 2 precursor. The boxed amino acid sequences exhibit significant homology with human integral membrane protein and myelin oligoglycoprotein-16.

Figs. 2A-2D depict AD7c-NTP expression *in vitro* and *in vivo*. (2A):
5 Recombinant protein detected by *in vitro* translation using sense strand cRNA transcripts. (2B): Western blot analysis of purified recombinant protein demonstrating specific immunoreactivity with the Tag and N3I4 AD7c-NTP monoclonal antibodies, but not with non-relevant FB50 monoclonal antibody. (2C): Western blot analysis of BOSC cells stably transfected with
10 pcDNA3-AD7c-NTP or pcDNA3 (empty vector). The blots were probed with the N3I4 AD7c-NTP antibody. (2D): Significantly increased levels of the 41-45 kD AD7c-NTP protein in AD frontal lobe relative to age-matched control frontal lobe tissue. Similar results were obtained for temporal lobe tissue. (2E): Higher levels of the 41-45 kD and 19-21 kD AD7c-NTP proteins in late, end-stage (L)
15 AD compared with early, less symptomatic (E) AD. All tissue samples were taken from the frontal lobe. Note the clusters of 3 or 4 bands between ~41 and ~45 kD, probably corresponding to different degrees of phosphorylation. (2F): Western blot analysis of postmortem ventricular fluid demonstrating higher levels of the ~41 kD AD7c-NTP molecules in AD compared with aged control samples using
20 the N3I4 antibody. The ~28-30 kD band may represent a degradation product. Also note detection of the ~19-21 kD N3I4-immunoreactive molecules in AD.

Figs. 3A-3F depict AD7c-NTP mRNA expression in AD and aged control brains. Northern blot analysis of AD and aged control frontal lobe RNA detected
25 ~1.4 kB transcripts corresponding to the size of the AD7c-NTP cDNA. In addition, ~0.9 kB transcripts corresponding to a different cDNA were detected in all brains, but not in other tissues. Densitometric analysis of the autoradiograms revealed variable levels of AD7c-NTP mRNA expression in the AD group (3A), but significantly higher mean levels of the 1.4 kB AD7c-NTP transcript in the AD (N=17) relative to the aged control (N=11) group ($P<0.01$). (Figs. 3C and 3D):
30 Brightfield photomicrographs of *in situ* hybridization results using antisense (3C)

or sense (3D; negative control) digoxigenin-labeled cRNA probes. Arrows indicate examples of neurons and dark grains represent positive hybridization signals. (Figs. 3E and 3F): Darkfield photomicrographs of *in situ* hybridization results demonstrating more intense labeling (white grains) in AD (3E) relative to aged control (3F) cortical neurons (arrows) in the frontal lobe. Probe labeling was detected with antidigoxigenin and alkaline phosphatase substrates (see below). The white signals aggregated over neurons (pyramidal shaped) represent positive results, and black areas indicate absent probe binding.

Figs. 4A-4H depict increased AD7c-NTP immunoreactivity in AD (4A) relative to aged control (4B) cortical neurons by immunohistochemical staining with the N2T8 (4A and 4B). N2J1 immunoreactivity in AD brains (Figs. 4C, 4E-4H) demonstrating high-level AD7c-NTP expression or accumulation in the perikarya of cytologically intact (4C) as well as degenerating (4E) neurons. In addition, the N2J1 antibody was immunoreactive with abnormal dystrophic cell processes occurring in aggregates (sprouts) (4F), dispersed in the white matter (4G), and corresponding to irregular beaded axons (4H). Fig. 4D depicts AD cerebral cortex immunostained with non-relevant antibody. The sections in Figs. 4A and 4B were counter stained with hematoxylin to provide a contrasting background.

Figs. 5A and 5B depict graphs showing increased cell death in pcDNA3-AD7c-NTP transfected SH-Sy5y cells. Synchronized cells were fed with medium containing 10% fetal calf serum, and DNA synthesis was assessed by ³H-thymidine incorporation into DNA (5A). The density of viable cells was determined at each time point (5A). Despite higher levels of DNA synthesis (5B), cell density was significantly reduced in 4 replicate AD7c-NTP-transfected cultures compared with control (pcDNA3-transfected) cells. AD7c-NTP-transfected cells also exhibited increased nuclear p53 immunoreactivity and increased nuclear DNA fragmentation by the *in situ* assay for nicked DNA (TUNEL), suggesting that over-expression of AD7c-NTP in neuronal cells causes apoptosis.

Figs. 6A-6G show that AD7c-NTP over-expression in transfected neuronal cells results in increased neuritic sprouting. (6A): SH-Sy5y cells stably transfected with pcDNA3 (empty vector). (6B-6D): SH-Sy5y cells stably transfected with pcDNA3-AD7c-NTP. Note fine neuritic processes (arrows) on most cells in Figs. 6B-6D. Also note lower cell density and numerous round refractile dead cells (arrowheads) in Fig. 6D compared with Fig. 6A. (Fig. 6E-6G): Immunocytochemical staining of SH-Sy5y cells stably transfected with pcDNA3 (6E) or pcDNA3-AD7c-NTP (6F, 6G) using N3I4 monoclonal antibody. Note intense labeling of perikarya and cell processes (arrows) in 6F and 6G and absent labeling in 6E.

Figs. 7A-7C depict modulation of gene expression following IPTG induction of AD7c-NTP expression. LacA-control cells (Fig. 7A) lack AD7c-NTP; LacB-B6 cells (Fig. 7B) and LacF-B6 cells (Fig. 7C) are two different clones with different levels of AD7c-NTP induction. Changes in the level of expression 24 hours after induction are indicated for genes involved in AD, neural sprouting, and apoptosis.

Figs. 8A-8D depict IPTG dose-dependent increases in the level of the NTP (Fig. A), Tau (Fig. B), Synaptophysin (Fig. C) and p53 (Fig. D) proteins. The percent change of the amount of each protein is presented as a function of IPTG concentration (mM).

Figures 9A and 9B depict the effects of AD7c-NTP expression in CYZ neuronal cells on metabolic (MTT) activity and cell viability. Lac A-Lac F represent six different clones, and B6 indicates AD7c-NTP expression. The percent change for MTT activity (Fig. 9A) and cell viability (Fig. 9B) are indicated for control (Lac A-Control) and AD7c-NTP expressing cell lines.

Figures 10A and 10B depict the effect of AD7c-NTP expression on cell viability. Nonexpressing Lac A Control and cell lines expressing AD7c-NTP at various levels, Lac B-B6 and Lac F-B6, were assayed for viability after varying exposure time to the protein expression inducing agent (IPTG) and various oxidative stress toxins.

Figure 11 depicts DNA fragmentation after IPTG induction of AD7c-NTP expression, thereby providing a quantitative assessment of apoptosis. Stably transfected CYZ neuronal cell lines, Lac A, Lac B and Lac F, which express various levels of AD7c-NTP after induction, were incubated in the presence of ³²dCTP label. The amount of radioactive isotope incorporated, under control (uninduced) and IPTG induction conditions, into the respective cell line DNAs is presented.

Figure 12 depicts the percent change in viability for cells stably transfected with and expressing AD7c-NTP under conditions that promote and reduce or block oxidative stress. Agents promoting oxidative stress are the following: hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) diethyldithiocarbamic acid (DDC), S-nitro-N-acetyl-penicillamine (SNAP) and N-acetyl cysteine; and the agent utilized to block or reduce oxidative stress is pyroglutamate (PG).

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments

Definitions

In the description that follows, a number of terms used in recombinant DNA technology are utilized extensively. In order to provide a clear and consistent understanding of the specification and claims, including the scope to be given such terms, the following definitions are provided.

Cloning vector. A plasmid or phage DNA or other DNA sequence which is able to replicate autonomously in a host cell, and which is characterized by one or a small number of restriction endonuclease recognition sites at which such DNA sequences may be cut in a determinable fashion without loss of an essential biological function of the vector, and into which a DNA fragment may be spliced in order to bring about its replication and cloning. The cloning vector may further contain a marker suitable for use in the identification of cells transformed with the

cloning vector. Markers, for example, provide tetracycline resistance or ampicillin resistance.

Expression vector. A vector similar to a cloning vector but which is capable of enhancing the expression of a gene which has been cloned into it, after transformation into a host. The cloned gene is usually placed under the control of (i.e., operably linked to) certain control sequences such as promoter sequences. Promoter sequences may be either constitutive or inducible.

Substantially pure. As used herein means that the desired purified protein is essentially free from contaminating cellular components, said components being associated with the desired protein in nature, as evidenced by a single band following polyacrylamide-sodium dodecyl sulfate gel electrophoresis. Contaminating cellular components may include, but are not limited to, proteinaceous, carbohydrate, or lipid impurities.

The term "substantially pure" is further meant to describe a molecule which is homogeneous by one or more purity or homogeneity characteristics used by those of skill in the art. For example, a substantially pure NTP will show constant and reproducible characteristics within standard experimental deviations for parameters such as the following: molecular weight, chromatographic migration, amino acid composition, amino acid sequence, blocked or unblocked N-terminus, HPLC elution profile, biological activity, and other such parameters. The term, however, is not meant to exclude artificial or synthetic mixtures of the factor with other compounds. In addition, the term is not meant to exclude NTP fusion proteins isolated from a recombinant host.

Recombinant Host. According to the invention, a recombinant host may be any prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell which contains the desired cloned genes on an expression vector or cloning vector. This term is also meant to include those prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells that have been genetically engineered to contain the desired gene(s) in the chromosome or genome of that organism. For examples of such hosts, see Sambrook *et al.*, *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Second Edition, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor,

New York (1989). Preferred recombinant hosts are neuronal cells transformed with the DNA construct of the invention. Such neuronal cells include brain cells that have been isolated after mechanical disassociation of an animal brain or other available neuronal cell lines.

5 **Recombinant vector.** Any cloning vector or expression vector which contains the desired cloned gene(s).

Host Animal. Transgenic animals, all of whose germ and somatic cells contain the DNA construct of the invention. Such transgenic animals are in general vertebrates. Preferred Host Animals are mammals such as non-human
10 primates, mice, sheep, pigs, cattle, goats, guinea pigs, rodents, e.g. rats, and the like. The term Host Animal also includes animals in all stages of development, including embryonic and fetal stages.

Promoter. A DNA sequence generally described as the 5' region of a gene, located proximal to the start codon. The transcription of an adjacent
15 gene(s) is initiated at the promoter region. If a promoter is an inducible promoter, then the rate of transcription increases in response to an inducing agent. In contrast, the rate of transcription is not regulated by an inducing agent if the promoter is a constitutive promoter. According to the invention, preferred promoters are heterologous to the AD7c-NTP gene, that is, the promoters do not
20 drive expression of the gene in a human. Such promoters include the CMV promoter (InVitrogen, San Diego, CA), the SV40, MMTV, and hMTIIa promoters (U.S. 5,457,034), the HSV-1 4/5 promoter (U.S. 5,501,979), and the early intermediate HCMV promoter (WO92/17581). Also, it is preferred that the promoter is neuro-specific, that is, it is induced selectively in neuronal tissue.
25 Also, neuro-specific enhancer elements may be employed. Examples of neuro-specific promoters include but are not limited to the promoter which controls the neurofilament gene (WO91/02788; Byrne and Ruddle, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:5473-5477 (1989)), the neuron specific promoter of the human neurofilament light gene (NFL) (U.S. 5,569,827); the promoter of the β 2-subunit
30 of the neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptor (EP 0 171 105; U.S. appl. no.

08/358,627), the hThy-1 promoter (W095/03397; U.S. appl. no. 08/096,944; Gordon, J. *et al.*, *Cell* 50:445-452 (1987)); the T α 1 α -tubulin promoter (W095/25795; U.S. appl. no. 08/215,083; Gloster *et al.*, *J. Neurosci.* 14:7319-7330 (1994)), the APP promoter, the rat neuron specific promoter, the human β actin gene promoter, the human platelet derived growth factor B (PDGF-B) chain gene promoter, the rat sodium channel gene promoter, the mouse myelin basic protein gene promoter, the human copper-zinc superoxide dismutase gene promoter, mammalian POU-domain regulatory gene promoter (W093/14200; U.S. appl. nos. 07/817,584 and 07/915,469); human platelet derived growth factor B (PDGF-B) chain gene promoter (W096/40895; U.S. appl. nos. 08/486,018 and 08/486,538; Sasahara *et al.*, *Cell* 64:217-227 (1991)); and the neuron-specific enolase promoter (McConlogue *et al.*, *Aging* 15:S12 (1994); Higgins *et al.*, *Ann Neurol.* 35:598-607 (1995); Mucke *et al.*, *Brain Res.* 666:151-167 (1994); Higgins *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA* 92:4402-4406 (1995); W096/40896; U.S. appl. no. 08/480,653; and U.S. 5,387,742); and sequences that regulate the oligodendroglial-specific expression of JC virus, glial-specific expression of the proteolipid protein, and the glial fibrillary acidic protein genes (U.S. Patent No. 5,082,670). Other neuro-specific promoters will be readily apparent to those of skill in the art. Since protein phosphorylation is critical for neuronal regulation (Kennedy, "Second Messengers and Neuronal Function," in *An Introduction to Molecular Neurobiology*, Hall, Ed., Sinauer Associates, Inc. (1992)), protein kinase promoter sequences can be used to achieve sufficient levels of NTP gene expression.

Gene. A DNA sequence that contains information needed for expressing a polypeptide or protein.

Structural gene. A DNA sequence that is transcribed into messenger RNA (mRNA) that is then translated into a sequence of amino acids characteristic of a specific polypeptide.

Antisense RNA gene/Antisense RNA. In eukaryotes, mRNA is transcribed by RNA polymerase II. However, it is also known that one may

construct a gene containing a RNA polymerase II template wherein a RNA sequence is transcribed which has a sequence complementary to that of a specific mRNA but is not normally translated. Such a gene construct is herein termed an "antisense RNA gene" and such a RNA transcript is termed an "antisense RNA."

5 Antisense RNAs are not normally translatable due to the presence of translation stop codons in the antisense RNA sequence.

Antisense oligonucleotide. A DNA or RNA molecule or a derivative of a DNA or RNA molecule containing a nucleotide sequence which is complementary to that of a specific mRNA. An antisense oligonucleotide binds to the complementary sequence in a specific mRNA and inhibits translation of the mRNA. There are many known derivatives of such DNA and RNA molecules. See, for example, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,602,240, 5,596,091, 5,506,212, 5,521,302, 5,541,307, 5,510,476, 5,514,787, 5,543,507, 5,512,438, 5,510,239, 5,514,577, 5,519,134, 5,554,746, 5,276,019, 5,286,717, 5,264,423, as well as WO96/35706, 10 WO96/32474, WO96/29337 (thiono triester modified antisense oligodeoxynucleotide phosphorothioates), WO94/17093 (oligonucleotide alkylphosphonates and alkylphosphothioates), WO94/08004 (oligonucleotide phosphothioates, methyl phosphates, phosphoramidates, dithioates, bridged phosphorothioates, bridge phosphoramidates, sulfones, sulfates, ketos, phosphate 15 esters and phosphorobutylamines (van der Krol *et al.*, *Biotech.* 6:958-976 (1988); Uhlmann *et al.*, *Chem. Rev.* 90:542-585 (1990)), WO94/02499 (oligonucleotide alkylphosphonothioates and arylphosphonothioates), and WO92/20697 (3'-end capped oligonucleotides). Particular NTP antisense oligonucleotides of the present invention include derivatives such as S-oligonucleotides (phosphorothioate 20 derivatives or S-oligos, *see*, Jack Cohen, *Oligodeoxynucleotides, Antisense Inhibitors of Gene Expression*, CRC Press (1989)). S-oligos (nucleoside phosphorothioates) are isoelectronic analogs of an oligonucleotide (O-oligo) in which a nonbridging oxygen atom of the phosphate group is replaced by a sulfur atom. The S-oligos of the present invention may be prepared by treatment of the 25 corresponding O-oligos with 3H-1,2-benzodithiol-3-one-1,1-dioxide which is a 30

sulfur transfer reagent. See Iyer *et al.*, *J. Org. Chem.* 55:4693-4698 (1990); and Iyer *et al.*, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 112:1253-1254 (1990).

Antisense Therapy. A method of treatment wherein antisense oligonucleotides are administered to a patient in order to inhibit the expression of the corresponding protein.

Complementary DNA (cDNA). A "complementary DNA," or "cDNA" gene includes recombinant genes synthesized by reverse transcription of mRNA and from which intervening sequences (introns) have been removed.

Expression. Expression is the process by which a polypeptide is produced from a structural gene. The process involves transcription of the gene into mRNA and the translation of such mRNA into polypeptide(s).

Homologous/Nonhomologous Two nucleic acid molecules are considered to be "homologous" if their nucleotide sequences share a similarity of greater than 40%, as determined by HASH-coding algorithms (Wilber, W.J. and Lipman, D.J., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 80:726-730 (1983)). Two nucleic acid molecules are considered to be "nonhomologous" if their nucleotide sequences share a similarity of less than 40%.

Ribozyme. A ribozyme is an RNA molecule that contains a catalytic center. The term includes RNA enzymes, self-splicing RNAs, and self-cleaving RNAs.

Ribozyme Therapy. A method of treatment wherein ribozyme is administered to a patient in order to inhibit the translation of the target mRNA.

Fragment. A "fragment" of a molecule such as NTP is meant to refer to any polypeptide subset of that molecule.

Functional Derivative. The term "functional derivatives" is intended to include the "variants," "analogues," or "chemical derivatives" of the molecule. A "variant" of a molecule such as NTP is meant to refer to a naturally occurring molecule substantially similar to either the entire molecule, or a fragment thereof. An "analogue" of a molecule such as NTP is meant to refer to a non-natural molecule substantially similar to either the entire molecule or a fragment thereof.

-17-

A molecule is said to be "substantially similar" to another molecule if the sequence of amino acids in both molecules is substantially the same, and if both molecules possess a similar biological activity. Thus, provided that two molecules possess a similar activity, they are considered variants as that term is used herein even if one of the molecules contains additional amino acid residues not found in the other, or if the sequence of amino acid residues is not identical.

As used herein, a molecule is said to be a "chemical derivative" of another molecule when it contains additional chemical moieties not normally a part of the molecule. Such moieties may improve the molecule's solubility, absorption, biological half-life, etc. The moieties may alternatively decrease the toxicity of the molecule, eliminate or attenuate any undesirable side effect of the molecule, etc. Examples of moieties capable of mediating such effects are disclosed in *Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences* (1980) and will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art.

AD7c-NTP. The term "AD7c-NTP" refers to the protein having sequence ID No. 2 as well as allelic variants thereof.

We have isolated a cDNA designated AD7c-NTP, that is expressed in neurons, and over-expressed in brains with AD. The 1442-nucleotide AD7c-NTP cDNA encodes a ~41 kD membrane spanning protein that has a hydrophobic leader sequence and myristylation motif near the amino terminus. The AD7c-NTP cDNA is an Alu sequence-containing gene with three regions of significant homology to the alternatively spliced A4 form of NF2, the β 1 subunit of integrin, human integral membrane protein, myelin oligoglycoprotein-16 precursor, and human decay accelerating factor 2 precursor, and two regions with significant homology with sequences in the Huntington's disease region on Chromosome 4p16.3. Expression of AD7c-NTP was confirmed by nucleic acid sequencing of RT-PCR products isolated from brain. AD7c-NTP cRNA probes hybridized with 1.4 kB and 0.9 kB mRNA transcripts by Northern blot analysis, and monoclonal antibodies generated with the recombinant protein were immunoreactive with ~39-45 kD and ~19-21 kD molecules by Western blot analysis of human brain.

Quantitation of data obtained from 17 AD and 11 age-matched control brains demonstrated significantly higher levels of AD7c-NTP expression in AD. *In situ* hybridization and immunostaining studies localized AD7c-NTP gene expression in neurons, and confirmed the over-expression associated with AD neurodegeneration. Increased AD7c-NTP protein levels were also detectable in cerebrospinal fluid by Western blot analysis. The results suggest that abnormal AD7c-NTP gene expression is associated with AD neurodegeneration. Thus, abnormal expression of AD7c-NTP is a phenotype associated with Alzheimer's disease.

The confirmation that AD7c-NTP expression leads to Alzheimer's disease led to the expectation that transgenic animals and cell lines which over express the AD7c-NTP can be used to screen drugs for use in the treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease, neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas and glioblastomas.

The invention relates to a DNA construct, wherein said DNA construct comprises a DNA molecule of Seq. ID No. 1, or a fragment thereof, or a DNA molecule which is at least 40% homologous thereto, more preferably, at least 85% homologous thereto, most preferably, at least 90% homologous thereto. Preferably, the DNA construct encodes AD7c-NTP having Seq. ID No. 2. Also preferably, the DNA sequence is under control of a heterologous neuro-specific promoter. Examples of promoters that can be used to drive expression of AD7c-NTP in a host cell are described above. Having the promoter in hand, one may simply ligate the promoter to the DNA molecule of Seq. ID No. 1. Methods for ligating DNA fragments are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art. Preferably, the DNA molecule having Seq. ID No. 1 is ligated to a plasmid which contains the promoter and which results in the promoter being in operable linkage to the AD7c-NTP DNA sequence.

Fragments of the DNA molecule of the invention code for proteins having the activity of AD7c-NTP, that is, the DNA fragments induce neuritic sprouting, nerve cell death, nerve cell degeneration, neurofibrillary tangles, and/or irregular

swollen neurites in a host which expresses the fragment. Such hosts include cellular hosts and transgenic animals.

DNA molecules which are at least 40%, 85% or 90% homologous to Seq. ID No. 1 may be isolated from cDNA libraries of humans and animals by hybridization under stringent conditions to the DNA molecule of Seq. ID No. 1 according to methods known to those of skill in the art. Stringent hybridization conditions are employed which select for DNA molecules having at least 40%, 85% and 90% homology to Seq. ID No. 1 are described in Sambrook *et al.*, In: *Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (1989); and Maniatis *et al.*, *Molecular Cloning - A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., 1985. The hybridizations may be carried out in 6 x SSC/5 x Denhardt's solution/0.1% SDS at 65°C. The degree of stringency is determined in the washing step. Thus, suitable conditions include 0.2 x SSC/ 0.01% SDS/65°C and 0.1 x SSC/0.01% SDS/65°C.

The invention also relates to cells containing the DNA construct of the invention. Examples of suitable cells that may contain the DNA construct of the invention include eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells. Preferred are eukaryotic cells such as those derived from a vertebrate animal including human cells, non-human primate cells, porcine cells, ovine cells and the like. Further, it is contemplated that the cell line may be a neuronal cell line from one of these vertebrate animals. Examples of such cell lines include SH-Sy5y, pNET-1, pNET-2, hNTs (Stratagene, Inc.), and A172 (ATCC) neuronal cells. See O'Barr, S. *et al.*, *Neurobiol. Aging* 17:131-136 (1996); Ozturk, M. *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:419-423 (1989); Bieldler, *et al.*, *Cancer Res.* 33:2643-2652 (1973); and The *et al.*, *Nature Genet.* 3:2643-2652 (1993).

Methods for introducing DNA constructs into cells *in vitro*, *in vivo* and *ex vivo* are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art. See, for example, U.S. patent nos. 5,595,899, 5,521,291, 5,166,320, 5,547,932, 5,354,844, 5,399,346, WO94/10569 and Citron *et al.*, *Nature* 360:622-674 (1995).

The invention also relates to transgenic non-human animals which comprise the DNA construct of the invention in each of its germ and somatic cells and which over express AD7c-NTP. Such transgenic animals may be obtained, for example, by injecting the DNA construct of the invention into a fertilized egg which is allowed to develop into an adult animal. To prepare a transgenic animal, a few hundred DNA molecules are injected into the pro-nucleus of a fertilized one cell egg. The micro injected eggs are then transferred into the oviducts of pseudopregnant foster mothers and allowed to develop. It has been reported by Brinster *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 82:4438-4442 (1985), that about 25% of mice which develop will inherit one or more copies of the micro injected DNA. Alternatively, the transgenic animals may be obtained by utilizing recombinant ES cells for the generation of the transgenes, as described by Gossler *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 83:9065-9069 (1986). The offspring may be analyzed for the integration of the transgene by isolating genomic DNA from tail tissue and the fragment coding for AD7c-NTP identified by conventional DNA-hybridization techniques (Southern, *J. Mol. Biol.* 98:503-517 (1975)). Animals positive for the AD7c-NTP gene are further bred to expand the colonies of AD7c-NTP mice. General and specific examples of methods of preparing transgenic animals are disclosed in U.S. 5,602,299, 5,366,894, 5,464,758, 5,569,827, WO96/40896 (U.S. appl. no. 08/480,653); WO96/40895 (U.S. appl. nos. 08/486,018 and 08/486,536); WO93/14200 (U.S. appl. nos. 07/817,584 and 07/915,469); WO95/03397 (U.S. appl. no. 08/096,944); WO95/25792 (U.S. appl. no. 08/215,083); EP 0 717 105 (U.S. appl. no. 08/358,627); and Hogan *et al.*, *Manipulating the Mouse Embryo*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1986); Hammer *et al.*, *Cell* 63:1099-1112 (1990).

Once obtained, the transgenic animals which contain the AD7c-NTP may be analyzed by immunohistology for evidence of AD7c-NTP expression as well as for evidence of neuronal or neuritic abnormalities associated with Alzheimer's disease, neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas and glioblastomas.

Sections of the brains may be stained with antibodies specific for AD7c-NTP, either monoclonal or polyclonal.

The invention also relates to an *in vitro* method for screening candidate drugs that are potentially useful for the treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease, neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas, and glioblastomas, which comprises

(a) contacting a candidate drug with a host transfected with a DNA construct, wherein the DNA construct comprises a DNA molecule of Seq. ID No. 1 or a DNA molecule that is at least 90% homologous thereto, and wherein said host over expresses the protein coded for by said DNA molecule, and

(b) detecting at least one of the following:

- (i) the suppression or prevention of expression of the protein;
- (ii) the increased degradation of the protein; or
- (iii) the reduction of frequency of at least one of neuritic sprouting, nerve cell death, degenerating neurons, neurofibrillary tangles, or irregular swollen neurites and axons in the host;

due to the drug candidate.

In a preferred embodiment, the host is a transgenic animal. In another preferred embodiment, the host is a cell *in vitro*. The suppression or prevention of expression, and the increased degradation of the protein such as AD7c-NTP may be detected with antibodies specific for AD7c-NTP. Monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies which are specific for AD7c-NTP as well as methods for the qualitative and quantitative detection of AD7c-NTP are described herein as well as in WO94/23756 and U.S. appl. no. 08/340,426. Such testing may be carried out on CSF of the transgenic animal or by immunohistochemical staining of a tissue section from the brain of the animal. In addition, such testing may be carried out by Western blot analysis, ELISA or RIA.

Immunohistochemical staining may also be carried out to determine the frequency of at least one of neuritic sprouting, nerve cell death, degenerating neurons, neurofibrillary tangles, or irregular swollen neurites and axons in the animal. Since in general the animal will have to be sacrificed, a pool of test and control transgenic animals should be tested. After sacrifice, the relative frequency of neuritic sprouting, nerve cell death, degenerating neurons, neurofibrillary tangles, or irregular swollen neurites and axons is determined for both groups. If the test group exhibits a reduced frequency of neuritic sprouting, nerve cell death, degenerating neurons, neurofibrillary tangles, or irregular swollen neurites and axons, the drug may be considered promising for the treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease, neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas, or glioblastomas.

When the host is a transgenic animal, the effect of a drug candidate may also be tested by behavioral tests which are designed to assess learning and memory deficits. An example of such a test is the Morris water maze disclosed by Morris, *Learn Motivat.* 12:239-260 (1981) and WO96/40895.

In the practice of the method of the invention, the candidate drug is administered to the transgenic animals or introduced into the culture media of cells derived from the animals or cells transfected with the DNA construct of the invention. The candidate drug may be administered over a period of time and in various dosages, and the animals or animal cells tested for alterations in AD7-c NTP expression, nerve cell degradation or histopathology. In case of transgenic animals, they may also be tested for improvement in behavior tests.

When cells are to be tested *in vitro* for the effect of the candidate drug, they are grown in a growth conducive medium and the medium replaced with a media containing the candidate drug. Wide varieties of medias which promote growth of practically any cell type are commercially available, for example, from Life Technologies, Inc. (Gaithersburg, MD). If the candidate drug is only sparingly soluble in the media, a stock solution may be prepared in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). The DMSO solution is then admixed with the media.

Preferably, the DMSO concentration in the media does not exceed 0.5%, preferably, 0.1%. The cells are then incubated in the presence of the drug-containing media for a preselected time period (e.g. 2-10 hours) at a preselected temperature, for example, about 37°C. At the end of this time period, the media may again be removed and fresh media containing the candidate drug is added. The cells are then incubated for a second preselected time period (e.g. 2-16 hours). This procedure can be repeated as necessary to achieve a significant result.

After the treatment period, the cells are tested either for the level of NTP expression and/or, if the cells are neuronal cells, examined for the presence and/or frequency of neuritic sprouting, nerve cell death, degenerating neurons, neurofibrillary tangles, or irregular swollen neurites and axons. In order to test for the level of NTP expression, immunohistochemical staining may be carried out as described in the Examples. Alternatively, the plates containing the cells may be centrifuged to pellet cellular debris from the medium, and a sample of the media tested for the NTP concentration. The concentration of NTP may be determined by ELISA with an antibody which is specific for NTP. Methods for carrying out such assays are disclosed in WO94/10569 and are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art. The concentration of NTP in the test cells/media is then compared to the concentration of control cells that have been treated the same way except that the media does not contain the candidate drug (but may contain the same level of DMSO). The results of the ELISA are fit to a standard curve and expressed as ng/mL NTP. See WO96/40895.

In a preferred *in vitro* model system, the AD7c-NTP is cloned into a Lac-Switch inducible system and stably transfected into neuronal cells (e.g., PNET2 (CYZ), SH-Sy5y and hNT2). AD7c-NTP may be the full length cDNA or a CAT reporter gene construct. Protein expression is inducible with 1-5 mM IPTG. Cultures may be examined for cell death, neuritic sprouting and the corresponding changes in gene expression associated with these or other AD-related phenomena. Analytical methods available for analysis include, but are

not limited to, viability (Crystal violet) and metabolic (MTT) assays, western blot and immunocytochemical staining, Microtiter ImmunoCytochemical ELISA (MICE) assay, apoptosis DNA fragmentation assays (ladder, end-labeling, Hoechst staining and TUNEL assay) and CAT assay for gene expression studies.

5 The effects of candidate drugs on the toxicity of NTP to neuronal cells can also be determined in primary rat cortical cell cultures according to WO96/40895, or with human fetal brain tissue, or differentiated neuronal cell lines such as hNT2 and SH-Sy5y cell lines. Alternatively, neuronal cells transformed with and expressing the gene coding for AD7c-NTP as described herein may be used.

10 Antisense oligonucleotides have been described as naturally occurring biological inhibitors of gene expression in both prokaryotes (Mizuno *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 81:1966-1970 (1984)) and eukaryotes (Heywood, *Nucleic Acids Res.* 14:6771-6772 (1986)), and these sequences presumably function by hybridizing to complementary mRNA sequences, resulting in hybridization arrest of translation (Paterson, *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 74:4370-4374 (1987)).

15 Antisense oligonucleotides are short synthetic DNA or RNA nucleotide molecules formulated to be complementary to a specific gene or RNA message. Through the binding of these oligomers to a target DNA or mRNA sequence, transcription or translation of the gene can be selectively blocked and the disease process generated by that gene can be halted (*see*, for example, Jack Cohen, *Oligodeoxynucleotides, Antisense Inhibitors of Gene Expression*, CRC Press (1989)). The cytoplasmic location of mRNA provides a target considered to be readily accessible to antisense oligodeoxynucleotides entering the cell; hence much of the work in the field has focused on RNA as a target. Currently, the use of antisense oligodeoxynucleotides provides a useful tool for exploring regulation of gene expression *in vitro* and in tissue culture (Rothenberg, *et al.*, *J. Natl. Cancer Inst.* 81:1539-1544 (1989)).

25 Antisense therapy is the administration of exogenous oligonucleotides which bind to a target polynucleotide located within the cells. For example,

30

antisense oligonucleotides may be administered systemically for anticancer therapy (WO 90/09180). AD7c-NTP is produced by neuroectodermal tumor cells, malignant astrocytoma cells, glioblastoma cells, and in relatively high concentrations (i.e, relative to controls) in brain tissue of AD patients. Thus, AD7c-NTP antisense oligonucleotides of the present invention may be active in treatment against AD, as well as neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas, and glioblastomas.

As discussed above, the invention also relates to the correct amino acid and nucleotide sequence for NTP. Thus, the invention also relates to antisense oligonucleotides which are complementary to the mRNA which may be transcribed from Seq. ID No. 1, wherein said oligonucleotides correspond to regions of the NTP gene that were incorrectly sequenced in WO94/23756 and WO96/15272, e.g. in the region including nucleotides 150-1139 (nucleotides 1-148 of Fig. 16R of published application; nucleotides 1-149 of Seq. ID No. 1 of the present application; were correctly sequenced). This incorrect sequence is present in Seq. ID Nos. 3 and 4. Thus, the invention relates to an antisense oligonucleotide which is complementary to an NTP mRNA sequence corresponding to nucleotides 150-1139 of Seq. ID No. 1. Preferably, the oligonucleotides correspond to regions including nucleotides selected from the group consisting of nucleotides 150, 194-195, 240-241, 243, 244, 255-256, 266-267, 269-271, 276, 267, 279-280, 293-295, 338-340, 411, 459, 532-533, 591, 633-644, 795-797, 828, 853-854, 876-877, 883, 884-885, 898, 976, 979-980, 999, 1037, 1043-1044, 1092-1096, 1099, and 1116-1119 of Seq. ID No. 1. More preferably, the invention is related to an antisense oligonucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

5' TTC ATC CTG GGT AAG AGT GGG ACA CCT GTG (Seq. ID No. 9);
5' TGG TGC ATG TCT TTG GTC CCA GCT AC (Seq. ID No. 10); and
5' ATC AAC CTG GCG AAC ATG GTG AAC CCC ATC (Seq. ID No. 11).

Also preferably, the sequence is a 15 to 40-mer, more preferably, a 15 to 30-mer. Also preferably, the antisense oligonucleotide is a phosphorothioate or

one of the other oligonucleotide derivatives mentioned above. Also preferred are antisense oligonucleotides which are complementary to an NTP nucleic acid sequence and which are nonhomologous to PTP nucleic acid sequences and that correspond to regions that were incorrectly sequenced in the past, as well as pharmaceutical compositions comprising such oligonucleotides and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Included as well in the present invention are pharmaceutical compositions comprising an effective amount of at least one of the NTP antisense oligonucleotides of the invention in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In one embodiment, a single NTP antisense oligonucleotide is utilized. In another embodiment, two NTP antisense oligonucleotides are utilized which are complementary to adjacent regions of the NTP DNA. Administration of two NTP antisense oligonucleotides which are complementary to adjacent regions of the DNA or corresponding mRNA may allow for more efficient inhibition of NTP genomic transcription or mRNA translation, resulting in more effective inhibition of NTP production.

Preferably, the NTP antisense oligonucleotide is coadministered with an agent which enhances the uptake of the antisense molecule by the cells. For example, the NTP antisense oligonucleotide may be combined with a lipophilic cationic compound which may be in the form of liposomes. The use of liposomes to introduce nucleotides into cells is taught, for example, in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,897,355 and 4,394,448. *See also* U.S. Patent Nos. 4,235,871, 4,231,877, 4,224,179, 4,753,788, 4,673,567, 4,247,411, 4,814,270 for general methods of preparing liposomes comprising biological materials.

Alternatively, the NTP antisense oligonucleotide may be combined with a lipophilic carrier such as any one of a number of sterols including cholesterol, cholate and deoxycholic acid. A preferred sterol is cholesterol.

In addition, the NTP antisense oligonucleotide may be conjugated to a peptide that is ingested by cells. Examples of useful peptides include peptide hormones, antigens or antibodies, and peptide toxins. By choosing a peptide that

is selectively taken up by the neoplastic cells, specific delivery of the antisense agent may be effected. The NTP antisense oligonucleotide may be covalently bound via the 5'OH group by formation of an activated aminoalkyl derivative. The peptide of choice may then be covalently attached to the activated NTP antisense oligonucleotide via an amino and sulfhydryl reactive hetero bifunctional reagent. The latter is bound to a cysteine residue present in the peptide. Upon exposure of cells to the NTP antisense oligonucleotide bound to the peptide, the peptidyl antisense agent is endocytosed and the NTP antisense oligonucleotide binds to the target NTP mRNA to inhibit translation (Haralambid *et al.*, WO 8903849; Lebleu *et al.*, EP 0263740).

The NTP antisense oligonucleotides and the pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention may be administered by any means that achieve their intended purpose. For example, administration may be by parenteral, subcutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, intra-peritoneal, transdermal, intrathecal or intracranial routes. The dosage administered will be dependent upon the age, health, and weight of the recipient, kind of concurrent treatment, if any, frequency of treatment, and the nature of the effect desired.

Compositions within the scope of this invention include all compositions wherein the NTP antisense oligonucleotide is contained in an amount effective to achieve inhibition of proliferation and/or stimulate differentiation of the subject cancer cells, or alleviate AD. While individual needs vary, determination of optimal ranges of effective amounts of each component is with the skill of the art. Typically, the NTP antisense oligonucleotide may be administered to mammals, e.g. humans, at a dose of 0.005 to 1 mg/kg/day, or an equivalent amount of the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, per day of the body weight of the mammal being treated.

Antisense oligonucleotides can be prepared which are designed to interfere with transcription of the NTP gene by binding transcribed regions of duplex DNA (including introns, exons, or both) and forming triple helices (U.S. 5,594,121, U.S. 5,591,607, WO96/35706, WO96/32474, WO94/17091, WO94/01550, WO

91/06626, WO 92/10590). Preferred oligonucleotides for triple helix formation are oligonucleotides which have inverted polarities for at least two regions of the oligonucleotide (*Id.*). Such oligonucleotides comprise tandem sequences of opposite polarity such as 3'---5'-L-5'---3', or 5'---3'-L-3'---5', wherein L represents a 0-10 base oligonucleotide linkage between oligonucleotides. The inverted polarity form stabilizes single-stranded oligonucleotides to exonuclease degradation (Froehler *et al.*, *supra*). Preferred oligonucleotides are nonhomologous to PTP nucleic acid sequences, and correspond to regions that were incorrectly sequenced in the past. The invention is related as well to pharmaceutical compositions comprising such oligodeoxynucleotides and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

In therapeutic application, the triple helix-forming oligonucleotides can be formulated in pharmaceutical preparations for a variety of modes of administration, including systemic or localized administration, as described above.

The antisense oligonucleotides and triple helix-forming oligonucleotides of the present invention may be prepared according to any of the methods that are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art, including methods of solid phase synthesis and other methods as disclosed in the publications, patents and patent applications cited herein.

The invention is also directed to ribozymes comprising a target sequence which is complementary to an NTP sequence of Seq. ID No. 1 and nonhomologous to PTP nucleic acid sequences and that correspond to regions that were incorrectly sequenced in the past, as well as pharmaceutical compositions comprising such ribozymes and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Ribozymes provide an alternative method to inhibit mRNA function. Ribozymes may be RNA enzymes, self-splicing RNAs, and self-cleaving RNAs (Cech *et al.*, *Journal of Biological Chemistry* 267:17479-17482 (1992)). It is possible to construct *de novo* ribozymes which have an endonuclease activity directed in *trans* to a certain target sequence. Since these ribozymes can act on various sequences, ribozymes can be designed for virtually any RNA substrate.

Thus, ribozymes are very flexible tools for inhibiting the expression of specific genes and provide an alternative to antisense constructs.

A ribozyme against chloramphenicol acetyltransferase mRNA has been successfully constructed (Haseloff *et al.*, *Nature* 334:585-591 (1988); Uhlenbeck *et al.*, *Nature* 328:596-600 (1987)). The ribozyme contains three structural domains: 1) a highly conserved region of nucleotides which flank the cleavage site in the 5' direction; 2) the highly conserved sequences contained in naturally occurring cleavage domains of ribozymes, forming a base-paired stem; and 3) the regions which flank the cleavage site on both sides and ensure the exact arrangement of the ribozyme in relation to the cleavage site and the cohesion of the substrate and enzyme. RNA enzymes constructed according to this model have already proved suitable *in vitro* for the specific cleaving of RNA sequences (Haseloff *et al.*, *supra*). Examples of such regions include the antisense oligonucleotides mentioned above.

Alternatively, hairpin ribozymes may be used in which the active site is derived from the minus strand of the satellite RNA of tobacco ring spot virus (Hampel *et al.*, *Biochemistry* 28:4929-4933 (1989)). Recently, a hairpin ribozyme was designed which cleaves human immunodeficiency virus type 1 RNA (Ojwang *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:10802-10806 (1992)). Other self-cleaving RNA activities are associated with hepatitis delta virus (Kuo *et al.*, *J. Virol.* 62:4429-4444 (1988)). See also U.S. 5,574,143 for methods of preparing and using ribozymes. Preferably, the NTP ribozyme molecule of the present invention is designed based upon the chloramphenicol acetyltransferase ribozyme or hairpin ribozymes, described above. Alternatively, NTP ribozyme molecules are designed as described by Eckstein *et al.* (International Publication No. WO 92/07065) who disclose catalytically active ribozyme constructions which have increased stability against chemical and enzymatic degradation, and thus are useful as therapeutic agents.

In an alternative approach, an external guide sequence (EGS) can be constructed for directing the endogenous ribozyme, RNase P, to intracellular NTP

mRNA, which is subsequently cleaved by the cellular ribozyme (Altman *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,168,053). Preferably, the NTP EGS comprises a ten to fifteen nucleotide sequence complementary to AD7c-NTP mRNA (corresponding to the miss-sequenced regions) and a 3'-NCCA nucleotide sequence, wherein N is preferably a purine (*Id.*). After NTP EGS molecules are delivered to cells, as described below, the molecules bind to the targeted NTP mRNA species by forming base pairs between the NTP mRNA and the complementary NTP EGS sequences, thus promoting cleavage of NTP mRNA by RNase P at the nucleotide at the 5'side of the base-paired region (*Id.*).

Examples of such external guide sequences are:

CAC TGC ACT TNC CA (Seq. ID No. 12)

CCA GGT GTA GNC CA (Seq. ID No. 13)

CAA GGT CCA GNC CA (Seq. ID No. 14)

Included as well in the present invention are pharmaceutical compositions comprising an effective amount of at least one NTP antisense oligonucleotide, triple helix-forming oligonucleotide, NTP ribozyme or NTP EGS of the invention in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. Preferably, the NTP antisense oligonucleotide, triple helix-forming oligonucleotide, NTP ribozyme or NTP EGS is coadministered with an agent which enhances the uptake of the NTP antisense oligonucleotide, triple helix-forming oligonucleotide, ribozyme or NTP EGS molecule by the cells. For example, the NTP antisense oligonucleotide, triple helix-forming oligonucleotide, NTP ribozyme or NTP EGS may be combined with a lipophilic cationic compound which may be in the form of liposomes, as described above. Alternatively, the NTP antisense oligonucleotide, NTP triple helix-forming oligonucleotide, NTP ribozyme or NTP EGS may be combined with a lipophilic carrier such as any one of a number of sterols including cholesterol, cholate and deoxycholic acid. A preferred sterol is cholesterol.

The NTP antisense oligonucleotide, NTP triple helix-forming oligonucleotide, NTP ribozyme or NTP EGS, and the pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention may be administered by any means that achieve their

intended purpose. For example, administration may be by parenteral, subcutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, intra-peritoneal, transdermal, intrathecal or intracranial routes. The dosage administered will be dependent upon the age, health, and weight of the recipient, kind of concurrent treatment, if any, frequency of treatment, and the nature of the effect desired. For example, as much as 700 milligrams of antisense oligodeoxynucleotide has been administered intravenously to a patient over a course of 10 days (i.e., 0.05 mg/kg/hour) without signs of toxicity (Sterling, "Systemic Antisense Treatment Reported," *Genetic Engineering News* 12(12):1, 28 (1992)).

Compositions within the scope of this invention include all compositions wherein the NTP antisense oligonucleotide, NTP triple helix-forming oligonucleotide, NTP ribozyme or NTP EGS is contained in an amount which is effective to achieve inhibition of proliferation and/or stimulate differentiation of the subject cancer cells, or alleviate AD. While individual needs vary, determination of optimal ranges of effective amounts of each component is with the skill of the art.

In addition to administering the NTP antisense oligonucleotides, triple helix-forming oligonucleotides, ribozymes, or NTP EGS as a raw chemical in solution, the therapeutic molecules may be administered as part of a pharmaceutical preparation containing suitable pharmaceutically acceptable carriers comprising excipients and auxiliaries which facilitate processing of the NTP antisense oligonucleotide, triple helix-forming oligonucleotide, ribozyme, or NTP EGS into preparations which can be used pharmaceutically. Suitable formulations for parenteral administration include aqueous solutions of the NTP antisense oligonucleotides, NTP triple helix-forming oligonucleotides, NTP ribozymes, NTP EGS in water-soluble form, for example, water-soluble salts. In addition, suspensions of the active compounds as appropriate oily injection suspensions may be administered. Suitable lipophilic solvents or vehicles include fatty oils, for example, sesame oil, or synthetic fatty acid esters, for example, ethyl oleate or triglycerides. Aqueous injection suspensions may contain substances

which increase the viscosity of the suspension include, for example, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, sorbitol, and/or dextran. Optionally, the suspension may also contain stabilizers.

Alternatively, NTP antisense oligonucleotides, NTP triple helix-forming oligonucleotides, NTP ribozymes, and NTP EGS can be coded by DNA constructs which are administered in the form of virions, which are preferably incapable of replicating *in vivo* (see, for example, Taylor, WO 92/06693). For example, such DNA constructs may be administered using herpes-based viruses (Gage *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,082,670). Alternatively, NTP antisense oligonucleotides, NTP triple helix-forming oligonucleotides, NTP ribozymes, and NTP EGS can be coded by RNA constructs which are administered in the form of virions, such as retroviruses. The preparation of retroviral vectors is well known in the art (see, for example, Brown *et al.*, "Retroviral Vectors," in *DNA Cloning: A Practical Approach*, Volume 3, IRL Press, Washington, D.C. (1987)).

According to the present invention, gene therapy can be used to alleviate AD by inhibiting the inappropriate expression of a particular form of NTP. Moreover, gene therapy can be used to alleviate AD by providing the appropriate expression level of a particular form of NTP. In this case, particular NTP nucleic acid sequences may be coded by DNA or RNA constructs which are administered in the form of viruses, as described above. Alternatively, "donor cells" may be modified *in vitro* using viral or retroviral vectors containing NTP sequences, or using other well known techniques of introducing foreign DNA into cells (see, for example, Sambrook *et al.*, *supra*). Such donor cells include fibroblast cells, neuronal cells, glial cells, and connective tissue cells (Gage *et al.*, *supra*). Following genetic manipulation, the donor cells are grafted into the central nervous system and thus, the genetically-modified cells provide the therapeutic form of NTP (*Id.*).

Moreover, such virions may be introduced into the blood stream for delivery to the brain. This is accomplished through the osmotic disruption of the blood brain barrier prior to administration of the virions (see, for example,

-33-

Neuwelt, United States Patent No. 4,866,042). The blood brain barrier may be disrupted by administration of a pharmaceutically effective, nontoxic hypertonic solution, such as mannitol, arabinose, or glycerol (*Id.*).

Having now generally described the invention, the same will be more readily understood through reference to the following Examples which are provided by way of illustration, and are not intended to be limiting of the present invention, unless specified.

Examples

Example 1 Isolation of the AD7c-NTP cDNA

A cDNA library was prepared commercially (Invitrogen Corp., San Diego, CA) using RNA extracted from the temporal lobe of an individual with end-stage AD. The library was ligated into the pcDNA2 vector (InVitrogen). To isolate the AD7c-NTP gene, approximately 5×10^5 transformed and IPTG induced (Sambrook, J. *et al.* "Molecular Cloning. A Laboratory Manual," Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.) *E. coli* colonies were screened using polyclonal antibodies to human PTP (Gross, J. *et al.*, "Isolation, Characterization, and Distribution of an Unusual Pancreatic Human Secretory Protein," *J. Clin. Invest.* 76:2115-2126 (1985)), followed by radiolabeled anti-human IgG (Amersham, Arlington Heights, IL) (Sambrook, J. *et al.* (1989); and Ausubel, F.M. *et al.*, "Current Protocols in Molecular Biology," New York, NY, John Wiley & Sons (1988)). Restriction endonuclease fragments (*Xho*I-*Pst*II; *Pst*II-*Pvu*II; *Pvu*II-*Hind*III) of AD7c-NTP were subcloned into pGem7 (Promega Corp., Madison, WI), and the nucleotide sequence of both strands was determined by the dideoxy chain termination method using T7 DNA polymerase (Ausubel, F.M. *et al.* (1988)). Additional gene specific primers were generated to generate sequences that overlapped the fragments. The DNA sequence was assembled with

the MacVector Software version 4.5 and analyzed using a Sequence Analysis Software of the Genetics Computer Group version 7.3 as implemented on a MicroVax II computer. Database searches were performed using the BLAST network service of the National Center for Biotechnology Information.

5 ***Characteristics of the AD7c-NTP cDNA Isolated from an AD Brain Library***

10 The AD7c-NTP cDNA contains 1442 nucleotides and begins with an oligo-dT track. The nucleotide sequence contains an 1125-nucleotide open reading frame starting with the first AUG codon, and a 302-nucleotide untranslated sequence that contains an AATAAA polyadenylation signal (Fig. 1). Bestfit and GAP analysis revealed the presence of four Alu-type sequences embedded in the open reading frame (nucleotides 1-170, 423-593, 595-765, and 898-1068), and a near-duplication (85% identical) of the first 450 nucleotides starting at nucleotide 898. BLAST database comparisons disclosed 3 regions of significance (67-89%) homology to the Huntington's disease region, chromosome 15 4p16.3 (Gusella, J.F. *et al.*, "A Polymorphic DNA Marker Genetically Linked to Huntington's Disease." *Nature* 306:24-238 (1983)) (Figure 1), but no alignment with the IT15 Huntington cDNA which contains longer than normal (CAG)_n repeats in individuals with Huntington's disease (The Huntington's Disease Collaborative Research Group, "A Novel Gene Containing a Trinucleotide Repeat that is Expanded and Unstable on Huntington's Disease Chromosomes," *Cell* 20 72:971-983 (1993)).

25 The translated 375 amino acid sequence has a predicted molecular weight of 41,718 and estimated pI of 9.89, and is rich in Ser (11.7%) and Pro (8.8%) residues. Kyte-Doolittle and Chou-Fasman hydrophilicity and Hopp-Woods surface probability profiles predict a 15 amino acid hydrophobic leader sequence, and 7 membrane-spanning regions. Corresponding with the organization of the cDNA, subsequent analysis of the protein revealed four 83% to 91% identical repeated (once or twice) antigenic domains between 9 and 23 amino acids in

length (Fig. 1). Protein subsequent analysis demonstrated 21 cAMP, calmodulin-dependent protein kinase II, protein kinase C, or glycogen synthase kinase 3 phosphorylation sites, and one myristylation site. In addition, a single tgf motif (Residues #44-#53) was detected. Comparison of the AD7c-NTP amino acid sequence with the genebank database revealed four regions of significant homology to the β -subunit of integrin (72%-80%), the alternatively spliced A4 form of the neurofibromatosis 2 gene (72%-81%), myelin oligodendroglial glycoprotein-16 precursor protein (70%-76%), human integral membrane protein (55%-85%), and human decay accelerating factor 2 precursor (62%-68%), and two regions with homology to the c-rel protooncogene transforming protein (Residues 56-84: 65%; Residues 287-295: 88%) (Fig. 1). Residues 5-24 are 75% identical to a region of the IGF1/insulin receptor hybrid, and residues 4-24, 47-79, 109-132, 227-261, and 227-360 exhibit 57% to 76% identity with the human transformation-related protein. In addition, two serine/threonine kinase protein domains (Residues 6-48, and 272-294) were identified.

The *in vitro* translated protein and pTrcHis-AD7c-NTP recombinant protein purified by metal chelate chromatography and cleaved from the fusion partner had molecular masses of ~39-42 kD by SDS-PAGE or Western blot analysis (Fig. 2). In addition, in Bosc cells transfected with the AD7c-NTP cDNA ligated into the pcDNA3 vector (Invitrogen, San Diego, CA), a single ~39-42 kD protein was detected by Western blot analysis using the N3I4 monoclonal antibody. In two-site immunoradiometric assays and immunoblotting studies, the AD7c-NTP recombinant protein exhibited specific immunoreactive binding with all of the polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies generated with purified pTrcHis-AD7c-NTP recombinant protein. No immunoreactivity with AD7c-NTP was detected using pre-immune rabbit sera, non-relevant rabbit polyclonal antibodies to GAP-43, or non-relevant monoclonal antibodies to Dengue virus or FB50 (Fig. 2).

Example 2 *In Vitro Expression of AD7c-NTP*

Antisense and sense cRNAs were transcribed from AD7c-NTP cDNA plasmid with *Kpn*I and *Xho*I, respectively. The cRNA transcripts were translated in a rabbit reticulocyte lysate system (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) in the presence of [35S]methionine (Dupont-New England Nuclear, Boston, MA), and the products of *in vitro* translation were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and autoradiography. The AD7c-NTP cDNA was ligated into the pTrcHis expression vector (Invitrogen Corp., San Diego, CA) which encodes a 5 N 6-His Tag sequence used to isolate the fusion protein by metal chelate chromatography. Recombinant fusion protein induction in transformed *E. coli* was achieved by the addition of 1 mM IPTG during log phase growth. The fusion protein was affinity purified (Ausubel, F.M. *et al.* (1988)) using ProBond resin (Invitrogen Corp., San Diego, CA), and detected by Western blot analysis (Harlow, E. and Lane, D., "Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual," Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (1988)) with antibodies to do T7-tag fusion partner (Novogen). The tag was then cleaved with enterokinase to give the AD7c-NTP protein. (Ausubel, R.M *et al.* (eds.) in Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, N.Y., 1994.

Example 3 *Generation of Polyclonal and Monoclonal Antibodies to Recombinant AD7c-NTP*

Polyclonal antibodies were generated in rabbits immunized with affinity purified recombinant AD7c-NTP protein. Monoclonal antibodies were generated in Balb/c mice immunized intraperitoneally with 50 µg of purified recombinant AD7c-NTP protein emulsified in complete Freund's adjuvant (Harlow, E. and Lane, D. (1988); and Wands, J.R. and Zurawski, V.R., Jr., "High Affinity Monoclonal Antibodies to Hepatitis B surface Antigen (HBsAg) produced by Somatic Cell Hybrids," *Gastroenterology* 80I:225-232 (1981)). The mice were boosted 6 to 10 weeks later, with 10 µg AD7c-NTP by tail vein injection.

Spleenocytes were fused with SP-0 myeloma cells (Harlow, E. and Lane, D. (1988) and Wands, J.R. and Zurawski, V.R., Jr. (1981)). The cells were grown in HAT medium, and hybridomas producing anti-AD7c-NTP antibody were identified by solid phase immunoassay (Bellet, D.H. *et al.*, "Sensitive and Specific Assay for Human Chorionic Gonadotropin Based on Anti-Peptide and Anti-Glycoprotein Monoclonal Antibodies: Construction and Clinical Implications," *J. Clin. Endocrinol. Metabol.* 63:1319-1327 (1988)). The binding specificity of the immunoglobulin fractions of polyclonal immune sera and the hybridoma supernatants was confirmed by radioimmunoassay (RIA) and Western blot analysis with recombinant AD7c-NTP, and by Western blot analysis and immunohistochemical staining of AD and aged control brains. In a panel of 25 hybridomas, 3 MoAbs exhibited similar levels of immunoreactivity with purified native PTP and recombinant AD7c-NTP, and therefore were further characterized (Table 1).

Table 1 Profiles of Immunoreactivity Exhibited by AD7c-NTP Monoclonal Antibodies				
Antibody	Western Blot	ICC*	AD Specific**	Distribution of Labeling in AD Brains
N2B10	Y: Reducing	Negative	N/A	None
N2I5	Y: Reducing	Negative	N/A	None
N2J1	Yes	++	Yes	Neuropil threads, irregular neurites, axons
N2R1	No	Negative	N/A	None
N2S6	Y: Reducing	++++	Yes	Neurons
N2T8	Y: Reducing	++++	Yes	Degenerating neurons, NFT, irregular neurites
N2U6	Yes	+++	Yes	Neuropil threads, NFT
N3A13	No	+	No	None
N3C11	No	++	No	None
N3D12	No	+	No	None
N3I4	Y: Nonreducing	Negative	N/A	None
N2-36	No	+	Yes	NFT, Swollen neurites
N2-22-11	No	Negative	N/A	None
Polyclonal	Yes	++++	Yes†	Degenerating neurons, irregular neurites

*ICC = Immunocytochemistry; NFT = neurofibrillary tangles

**AD-specific: Immunoreactivity only detected in histologically normal neurons and fibers in AD tissue sections (N2S6), or in degenerating neuronal cell bodies and processes detected in AD.

† = following formic acid treatment only.

- 39 -

Profiles of AD7c-NTP Immunoreactivity Revealed with MoAbs (Table 1):

The findings summarized below are representative of the observations made in 6 end-stage AD and 5 aged control brains. Twenty-five of the AD7c-NTP MoAbs were characterized by immunocytochemical staining. Table 1 details features of 13 AD7c-NTP MoAbs. The other 12 MoAbs were excluded from the list because either they were not suitable for immunocytochemical staining and Western immunoblot studies due to low-level binding (N=9), or they exhibited cross-immunoreactivity with pancreatic thread protein (N=3). Among the 13 AD7c-NTP MoAbs that were further characterized, only 8 exhibited immunoreactivity in neuronal perikarya, neuropil fibers, white matter fibers (axons), or AD neurodegenerative lesions. The other 5 were non-immunoreactive in histologic sections.

In Table 1, AD-specific binding refers to the detection of degenerating neurons, neurofibrillary tangles, irregular swollen neurites and axons, or immunoreactivity in histologically intact neurons in AD but not control brains. Four AD7c-NTP MoAbs (N2-36, N3-C11, N2S6, N2-T8) exhibited intense degrees of immunocytochemical staining in cortical neurons, particularly pyramidal cells in layers 3 and 5. Two MoAbs (N2-U6, N2-S6) prominently labeled neuropil and white matter fibers (axons), and 5 (N2-U6, N3-C11, N2-S6, N2-T8, N2-J1) detected A2B5+ and GFAP+ protoplasmic (Type 2) astrocytes in the cerebral cortex and white matter. Two AD7c-NTP MoAbs (N2-U6 and N2-T8) exhibited intense labeling of cortical neurons and swollen, irregular (dystrophic) neuropil neurites in AD, but low-level or absent labeling in aged control brains. Most striking was the immunoreactivity observed in AD-associated neurodegenerative lesions using the N2-36, N2-T8, N2-U6 MoAbs. N2-T8 detected intracellular neurofibrillary tangles as well as degenerated neurons without neurofibrillary tangles; N3-D12, N2-T8, and N2-J1 labeled swollen dystrophic axons and fine neuritic processes, particularly in superficial layers of the cerebral cortex; and N2-U6 and N2-J1 labeled wavy irregular threadlike structures detected only in AD brains. N2J1 very prominently labeled irregular threadlike structures, dystrophic neurites, and swollen axons, but exhibited minimal labeling of neuronal perikarya

- 40 -

or glial cells. The negative control 5C3 MoAb to Hepatitis B virus was not immunoreactive with adjacent sections of the same brains.

In the Examples which follow, polyclonal and the N3I4, N2J1, and N2U6 monoclonal AD7c-NTP antibodies were employed.

5 **Example 4 Human Brain Tissue**

Human brain tissue was obtained from the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center brain bank at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH-ADRC). All brains were harvested within 12 hr of death, and the histopathological diagnosis of AD was rendered using CERAD criteria (Mirra, S.S. *et al.*, "The Consortium to Establish a Registry for Alzheimer's Disease (CERAD). II. Standardization of the Neuropathological assessment of Alzheimer's Disease," *Neurology* 10 41:479-486 (1991)). The AD group (N=17) had a mean age of 76.3±8.8 years, a mean brain weight of 1117±101 grams, and a mean postmortem interval of 7.3±3.9 hours. The control group (N=11) had a mean age of 78.0±6.2 years, a 15 mean brain weight of 1274±115 grams, and a mean postmortem interval of 8.3±3.6 hours. In addition, 4 cases of early probable AD with cognitive decline and moderate AD histopathological lesions, and 2 cases of diffuse Lewy body disease (Kosaka, K. "Dementia and Neuropathology in Lewy Body Disease," *Adv. Neurol.* 20 60:456-463 (1993)) (DLBD: an AD-related CNS neurodegenerative disease) were studied. Fresh frozen frontal and temporal lobe tissue was used for Northern and Western blot analyses. Post-mortem cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) samples (8 AD; 7 control; 2 DLBD) were used to detect AD7c-NTP by Western blot analysis. Paraffin-embedded histological sections were used to localize AD7c-NTP gene expression by *in situ* hybridization and immunohistochemical 25 staining.

Example 5 Northern Analysis of AD7c-NTP mRNA Expression

Samples (15 µg) of total RNA isolated (Ausubel, F.M. *et al.* (1988)) from AD and aged control frontal lobe tissue (Brodmann Area 11), and normal adult human kidney, liver, spleen, gastrointestinal tract, ovaries, fallopian tubes, uterus, thyroid, lung, skeletal muscle, and pancreas, were subjected to Northern hybridization analysis using 2×10^6 dpm/ml of [$\alpha^{32}\text{P}$]dCTP-labeled AD7c-NTP cDNA probe (specific activity $\sim 10^8$ dpm/µg DNA) generated by the random hexamer method (Ausubel, F.M. *et al.* (1988)). The blots were subsequently washed in stepwise dilutions of 5x SSC (1X SSC is 0.15 M NaCl plus 0.015 M sodium citrate) containing 0.5% SDS (Sambrook, J. *et al.* (1989); Ausubel, F.M. *et al.* (1988)), and finally in 0.1x SSC/0.5% SDS at 65°C. To evaluate RNA loading, the blots were stripped of probe and re-hybridized with a 10-fold molar excess of a [$\gamma^{32}\text{P}$]ATP-labeled synthetic 30mer corresponding to 18s ribosomal RNA (de la Monte, S.M. and Bloch, K.D. (1996)). The results were analyzed by autoradiography and densitometry (ImageQuant, Molecular Dynamics, Inc).

Results: AD7c-NTP mRNA Expression in AD and Aged Control Brains

In Northern blot hybridization studies, AD7c-NTP cDNA probes detected 1.4 kB and 0.9 kB mRNA transcripts in adult human frontal and temporal lobe tissue, but not pancreas, kidney, liver, spleen, gastrointestinal tract (various regions) ovaries, fallopian tubes, uterus, thyroid, lung, skeletal muscle, testis, and thymus were negative. Both 1.4 kB and 0.9 kB AD7c-NTP mRNA transcripts were detected in AD and aged control brains, but the levels of expression were increased in AD. With values normalized to 18S RNA signals to correct for differences in loading and non-specific degradation, densitometric analysis of non-saturated autoradiograms revealed significantly higher mean levels of both the 1.4 kB ($P < 0.01$) and the 0.9 kB ($P < 0.05$) AD7c-NTP transcripts in AD compared with normal aged control brains.

**Example 6 Reverse Transcriptase-polymerase Chain
Reaction Amplification (RT-PCR) Studies**

Samples of total RNA (2 µg) isolated from human brain, PNET1 and PNET2 human CNS neuronal cell lines (The, I. *et al.*, "Neurofibromatosis type 1 Gene Mutations in Neuroblastoma," *Nature Genet.* 3:62-66 (1993)) (positive controls), SH-Sy5y human neuroblastoma cells (Biedler, J.L. *et al.*, "Morphology and Growth, Tumorigenicity, and Cytogenetics of Human Neuroblastoma Cells in Continuous Culture," *Cancer Res.* 33:2643-2652 (1973)), and human pancreas and liver (negative controls) were reverse transcribed using random hexamer primers (Ausubel, F.M. (1988)) and Superscript™ reverse transcriptase (Gibco-BRL, Grand Island, NY). The cDNA products (10%) were subjected to PCR amplification to detect AD7c-NTP sequences using the primers: (459-480) 5' TGTCCCACTCTTACCCAGGATG [Seq ID No. 5] and (849-826) 5' AAGCAGGCAGATCACAAGGTCCAG [Seq. ID No. 6]. β-actin control primers (Dallman, M.J. and Porter, A.C.G., "Semi-Quantitative PCR for the Analysis of Gene Expression," In: *PCR A Practical Approach*, M.J. McPherson *et al.* (eds.), IRL Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp. 215-224 (1991)) (5' AATGGATGACGATATCGCTG [Seq. ID No. 7]; 5'-ATGAGGTAGTCTGTCAGGT [Seq. ID No. 8]) were incorporated into all studies. Each cycle of PCR amplification consisted of denaturation at 95°C for 30 secs, annealing at 60°C for 30 secs, and extension at 72°C for 1 min. After 30 cycles and a final 10 minute extension at 72°C, approximately 10 percent of the PCR products were analyzed by agarose gel electrophoresis and Southern hybridization using a [$\gamma^{32}\text{P}$]dATP-labeled oligonucleotide probe corresponding to nucleotides 702-720 of the AD7c-NTP cDNA. The remaining PCR products were electrophoretically fractionated and ligated into PCRII TA cloning vectors (InVitrogen Corp, San Diego, CA). The nucleotide sequences of clones isolated from 6 brain samples were determined by the dideoxy chain termination method (Sambrook, J. *et al.*, (1989); Ausubel, F.M. (1988)).

Expression of AD7c-NTP mRNA in human brain was verified by RT-PCR amplification of RNA isolated from 6 AD and 5 aged control brains (frontal lobe).

- 43 -

The expected 390 nucleotide PCR product was obtained with all samples. The specificity of the PCR products was demonstrated by Southern blot analysis using [³²P]-labeled oligonucleotide probes corresponding to internal sequences, and by determining that the nucleic acid sequences of the 390-nucleotide PCR products cloned from 5 AD brains were identical to the sequence underlined in Fig. 1. In the RT-PCR amplification studies, AD7c-NTP PCR products were also detected using RNA isolated from PNET1, PNET2 and SH-Sy5y neuronal cells, but not human pancreas or liver. All samples analyzed yielded positive RT-PCR products using the β -actin primers.

Example 7 *In Situ Hybridization*

Paraffin sections (10 μ m thick) of AD and control brains were hybridized with antisense and sense (negative control) AD7c-NTP cRNA probes (de la Monte S.M. *et al.*, (1995); de la Monte, S.M. and Bloch, K.D. (1996)) generated from cDNA templates linearized with *Kpn*I or *Xho*I, and labeled with [11-digoxigenin]UTP using SP6 to T7 DNA dependent RNA polymerase (Melton, D.A. *et al.* "Efficient *in Vitro* Synthesis of Biologically Active RNA and RNA Hybridization Probes from Plasmids Containing a Bacteriophage SP6 Promoter," *Nucl. Acids Res.* 12:7035-7056 (1984)). Specifically bound probe was detected with alkaline phosphatase-conjugated sheep F(ab')₂ anti-digoxigenin (Boehringer-Mannheim Inc.) and X-phosphate/5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl-phosphate/nitro-blue-tetrazolium-chloride (de la Monte, S.M. and Bloch, K.D. (1996)). The probe specificity was confirmed by Northern blot analysis of brain using identical cRNA probes labeled with [α ³²P]UTP.

Results: *Cellular Localization of AD7c-NTP mRNA in Human Brain*

In situ hybridization studies using [11-digoxigenin]UTP-labeled antisense cRNA probes demonstrated AD7c-NTP-related mRNA transcripts in frontal

- 44 -

(Brodmann Area 11) and temporal (Brodmann Area 21) cortex neurons in both AD (N=6) and aged control (N=4) brains (Fig. 3). However, darkfield microscopy revealed strikingly elevated levels of AD7c-NTP mRNA expression in both temporal and frontal cortex neurons in AD relative to aged control brains, corresponding with the results of Northern blot analysis. Low levels of AD7c-NTP mRNA transcripts were also detected in cortical and white matter glial cells in AD. AD7c-NTP mRNA transcripts were not detected in cerebral blood vessels, and specific hybridization signals were not observed in any of the specimens hybridized with digoxigenin-labeled sense strand cRNA probes.

Example 7 Immunodetection of AD7c-NTP Expression

Western immunoblotting studies (Harlow, E. and Lane, D. (1988)) were performed using protein extracts (60 µg samples) generated from postmortem frontal and temporal lobe tissue, and various non-CNS tissues homogenized in RIPA buffer (Ausubel, F.M. *et al.* (1988)). In addition, 40 µl samples of postmortem or antemortem cerebrospinal fluid were evaluated by Western blot analysis. The blots were probed with rabbit polyclonal (1:800) or N3I4, N2U6, or N2J1 mouse monoclonal (5 µg/ml) anti-AD7c-NTP. Antibody binding was detected with horseradish peroxidase-conjugated secondary antibody diluted 1:25,000 (Pierce), and Supersignal enhanced chemiluminescence reagents (Pierce). The levels of AD7c-NTP expression were quantified by volume densitometric scanning of the autoradiograms (ImageQuant; Molecular Dynamics Inc., Sunnyvale, CA). Cellular localization of AD7c-NTP immunoreactivity was demonstrated in paraffin-embedded histological sections of frontal (Brodmann Area 11) and temporal (Brodmann Area 21) lobe from AD and age-matched control brains. The sections were immunostained by the avidin-biotin horseradish peroxidase complex method (de la Monte, S.M. *et al.* (1995); and de la Monte, S.M. and Bloch, K.D. (1996)) using the N2J1 and N2U6 AD7c-NTP monoclonal antibodies. Adjacent sections were immunostained with monoclonal antibodies

- 45 -

to glial fibrillary acidic protein as a positive control, and with monoclonal antibodies to Dengue virus as a negative control.

**Results: *Characterization of AD7c-NTP Antibody
Binding by Western Blot Analysis***

5 In Western immunoblotting studies of protein extracted from human
frontal and temporal lobe tissue, broad ~39-45 kD bands of AD7c-NTP
immunoreactivity were detected with the polyclonal and 11 of the 25 monoclonal
antibodies. When the proteins were electrophoretically fractionated in 15%
Laemmli gels and probed with the N3I4, N2U6, or N2J1 monoclonal antibodies,
10 the ~39-45 kD AD7c-NTP-immunoreactive molecules were resolved into 3 or 4
tightly clustered bands (Fig. 2E), possibly representing different degrees of
AD7c-NTP phosphorylation. In addition, the polyclonal and 4 of the monoclonal
antibodies detected 18-21 kD AD7c-NTP-immunoreactive proteins in brain (Fig.
2E). Western blot analysis of non-CNS tissues revealed no specific binding with
15 the AD7c-NTP antibodies.

Example 8 *In vitro Expression Studies*

 The AD7c-NTP cDNA was ligated into the pcDNA3 mammalian
expression vector which contains a CMV promoter (InVitrogen, San Diego, CA).
SH-Sy5y cells were transfected with either pcDNA3-AD7c-NTP or pcDNA3
20 (empty vector, negative control), and selected with G418. Stably transfected cell
lines were examined for growth properties, morphology, and expression of
AD7c-NTP. Cell growth was assessed by measuring [³H] thymidine incorporation
into DNA and determining the density of viable cells in the cultures. Cells grown
in chamberslides were immunostained using N3I4 monoclonal antibody.
25 AD7c-NTP expression was also evaluated by Western blot analysis with the N3I4
antibody.

- 46 -

Results: *Over-Expression of AD7c-NTP in Neuronal Cells Leads to Apoptosis, Neuritic Sprouting Which are Characteristic of Alzheimer's Disease*

Over-expression of AD7c-NTP in SH-Sy5y neuronal cells stably transfected with pcDNA3-AD7c-NTP resulted in significantly lower densities of viable cells in the cultures, despite normal or elevated levels of DNA synthesis (Fig. 5). This result was reproducible in other neuronal cells lines and using other expression vectors. Reduced cell density in the cultures was caused by increased cell death. The attendant increase in nuclear p53 expression in AD7c-NTP transfected cells suggests that the cell death is likely to be mediated by apoptosis. Subconfluent cultures of SH-Sy5y cells transfected with pcDNA3 contained round or spindled shaped cells with few or no processes (Fig. 6A). In contrast, SH-Sy5y cells transfected with pcDNA3-AD7c-NTP exhibited extensive neuritic growth with fine interconnecting processes detected on most cells (Figs. 6B-6D). In addition, pcDNA3-AD7c-NTP transfected cultures always contained numerous round, refractile floating cells (dead) which failed to exclude Trypan blue dye. Immunocytochemical staining of stationary cultures using the N314 monoclonal antibody revealed intense labeling of the cell bodies and cell processes of SH-Sy5y cells transfected with pcDNA3-AD7c-NTP (Figs. 6F and 6G), and absent immunoreactivity in SH-Sy5y cells transfected with pcDNA3 (empty vector) (Fig. 6E). These studies demonstrate that over expression of AD7c-NTP in transfected neuronal cells promotes neuritic sprouting and cell death, two of the major features of Alzheimer's disease neurodegeneration. Thus, transfected cell lines and transgenic animals which over-express the AD7c-NTP will be useful for screening drugs that might be effective in reducing AD7c-NTP expression and, thereby, treating or preventing the onset of Alzheimer's disease.

**Example 9 AD7c-NTP Protein Expression in AD and Aged
Control Brains**

Western blot analysis and immunohistochemical staining of AD and aged control brains were performed using the N3I4, N2U6, and N2J1 monoclonal AD7c-NTP antibodies. In AD and aged control brains, ~39-45 kD proteins were detected with all 3 monoclonal antibodies. In addition, ~18-21 kD proteins were detected with the N2U6 and N2J1 antibodies. Densitometric analysis of the autoradiograms demonstrated significantly higher levels of the ~39-45 kD AD7c-NTP in AD relative to aged control frontal lobe tissue (Fig. 2D). In addition, expression of the ~18-21 kD AD7c-NTP-immunoreactive proteins was also increased in AD, but studies have not yet determined whether these molecules represent cleavage products of the ~39-45 kD AD7c-NTP, or a unique protein encoded by another cDNA. In a small series, comparisons between early and late AD revealed higher levels of AD7c-NTP immunoreactivity in brains with end-stage disease (Fig. 2E). Using the N3I4 antibody, Western blot analysis detected the presence of ~39-45 kD AD7c-NTP molecules in postmortem CSF, and higher levels in AD relative to aged control samples (Fig. 2F). Immunohistochemical staining studies with polyclonal and several brain-specific monoclonal antibodies localized AD7c-NTP immunoreactivity in neurons, neuropil fibers, and white matter fibers in AD and control brains. In immunohistochemical staining studies, the N2U6 and N2J1 antibodies exhibited intense immunoreactivity in intact as well as degenerating cortical neurons and dystrophic neurites in AD brains, but low-level or absent immunoreactivity in aged control brains (Fig. 4). Omission or pre-adsorption of the primary antibody with recombinant AD7c-NTP protein, or the application of non-relevant primary antibody (negative controls) also yielded negative immunostaining results. All sections of brain exhibited positive immunoreactivity with monoclonal antibodies to glial fibrillary acidic protein (positive control).

These studies demonstrate elevated levels of AD7c-NTP expression in AD relative to aged control brains, and abnormal AD7c-NTP gene expression localized in AD brain neurons by *in situ* hybridization and immunohistochemical

- 48 -

staining. Although two distinct mRNA transcripts and at least two distinct protein species were detected in brain, the levels of the mRNA and protein corresponding to AD7c-NTP were increased in AD. We have not yet determined whether the smaller transcripts and protein species are distinct, or represent alternately spliced forms of a single gene. Although the cDNA was isolated from a library prepared with RNA isolated from a single AD brain, the RT-PCR studies confirmed the presence of identical sequences in 6 different AD brains. Since the AD7c-NTP cDNA exhibits no significant primary sequence homology with the human pancreatic protein (Watanabe, T. *et al.*, "Complete Nucleotide Repeat that is expanded and Unstable on Huntington's Disease Chromosomes," *Cell* 72:971-983 (1993)), the cross-reactivity of polyclonal antibodies with AD7c-NTP molecule probably occurs through conformational epitopes. Increased expression of AD7c-NTP was observed in both histologically intact and degenerating neurons and cell processes, and a recent study suggested that AD7c-NTP protein expression occurs early in AD neurodegeneration.

Example 10 In Vitro Drug Screening System

AD7c-NTP was cloned into a Lac-Switch expression vector (Stratgene), and CYZ neuronal cells were stably transformed with the construct. Several cell lines were selected that expressed AD7c-NTP at various levels, Lac A-Lac F, after induction of protein expression with IPTG. Experiments were done to determine the effect (e.g., change in morphology, gene expression, viability, etc.) of AD7c-NTP expression on neuronal cells, thereby generating markers useful for screening, *in vitro*, potential pharmacologic agents for the treatment of AD.

Expression levels were determined by Microtiter Immunocytochemical Elisa Assay (MICE). Briefly, 10^4 cells/well were seeded into 96-well plates, and were induced to express AD7c-NTP for a period of 6-18 hrs; additionally, in some experiments, cells were exposed to toxins or protective agents for a similar period of time. At the end the treatment period, cells were fixed, permeabilized and immunostained with the appropriate antibody following the ABS procedure.

- 49 -

Quantitation was done by incubating cells with a soluble chromagen, stopping the reaction with 2M H₂SO₄ and determining chromagen absorbance in an automated ELISA reading machine. After staining with Coomassie Blue, the ratio of immunoreactivity (i.e. bound chromagen) to Coomassie Blue absorbance was determined (MICE units), and the results were graphed. Alternatively, immunoreactivity may also be determined with a precipitating chromagen (e.g. DAB, TruBlue or AEC).

For Experiments determining cell viability, after culture and treatment as for the MICE assay, culture media was replaced with a Crystal Violet/PBS/formalin solution. After staining, cells were rinsed thoroughly and lysed with a PBS/1% SDS solution, and absorbance was determined with an automated ELISA reader. Results were graphed as percent viability.

Results: *Over-Expression of AD7c-NTP in Neuronal Cells Leads to Alterations in Gene Expression, Cell Viability and Toxin Hypersensitivity*

Expression of AD7c-NTP results in altered expression of genes associated with AD (Tau, bA4 amyloid), neuritic sprouting (synaptophysin) and apoptosis (p53, SC95-Fas, NO-Tyr, NOS3) (Figures 7A-7C and 8A-8D). In Figures 7A-7C, the percent change in expression, 24 hrs. after AD7c-NTP induction, is presented for the indicated genes. In the absence of AD7c-NTP expression (Fig. 7A), little or no change in gene expression is observed in Lac A-control, nonexpressing cells; however, similar experiments done with Lac B (Fig. 7B) and Lac F (Fig. 7C) cells induced to express different levels of AD7c-NTP (B6) demonstrate marked changes in gene expression. For example, NOS3 is expressed at almost twice the normal level in the Lac B-B6 experiment (Fig. 7B) than in Lac A-control cells (Fig. 7A).

Figures 8A-8D demonstrate that altered gene expression is dependent on the level of AD7c-NTP induction. Results are presented for the NTP (Fig. 8A), Synaptophysin (Fig. 8B), Tau (Fig. 8C) and p53 (Fig. 8D) genes as percent change in expression as a function of IPTG induction of AD7c-NTP expression in stably

- 50 -

transfected, CYZ neuronal cells. LacB (filled square) and LacF (open circle) cells were exposed to the indicated amounts of IPTG (1-5 mM) for 24 hrs.. These data indicate that increased concentrations of IPTG leads to an up-regulation of all genes examined.

Two assays were used to evaluate the effects of AD7c-NTP expression in CYZ neuronal cells: metabolic activity was measured by the MTT assay (Fig. 9A), and cell death was measured by the CV viability assay (Fig.9B). Results are expressed as percent change in MTT activity or cell viability 24 hrs. after IPTG induction relative to untreated, parallel control cultures. Six different clones, LacA-LacF, were assayed after IPTG induction (B6) and compared to LacA control cells lacking AD7c-NTP. For all 6 clones examined, stimulation of AD7c-NTP expression results in substantially reduced metabolic activity relative to control cells (Fig. 9A). Cell death was induced in LacB-B6 and LacF cells, and reduced cell viability was observed in LacA-B6 and LacE-B6 clones.

Decreased cell viability of cells expressing AD7c-NTP is exacerbated by oxidative stress. When LacB and LacF cells were induced with 3mM IPTG (B6) for 24 hrs or 48 hrs. and exposed to toxins that increase oxidative stress for 6 hrs or 24 hrs. (Figs. 10A and 10B, respectively), cell viability decreased markedly as compared to LacA-control, nonexpressing cells. Results depicted in Figures 10A and 10B establish both that longer AD7c-NTP induced expression and longer exposure to hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and diethyldithiocarbamic acid (DDC) lead to decreased cell viability and increased hypersensitivity, respectively.

In order to determine the reason for decreased cell viability, experiments were done to quantitatively measure apoptosis in stably transfected, CYZ neuronal cells expressing AD7c-NTP; results are presented in Figure 11. The degree of apoptosis was determined by incubating cells in the presence of $^{32}dCTP$ to measure template-independent incorporation of label into fragmented DNA, a characteristic of the apoptotic mechanism of cell death. Comparison of control (uninduced, transfected cells) with 3mM induced (indicated by B6) LacA, LacB and LacF cells clearly indicates that expression of AD7c-NTP leads to increased incorporation of $^{32}dCTP$ label into cellular DNA (increased apoptosis). Variations

in the incorporation of label between IPTG induced cell lines are attributed to differences in the level of AD7c-NTP expression.

The established *in vitro* system provides a means for screening pharmacologic agents that modulate or counteract the changes effected through AD7c-NTP expression and, ostensibly, the AD process. AD7c-NTP expression leads to up-regulation of nitric oxide synthase which, in some neuronal cells, causes oxygen free radical formation. The experiment depicted in Figure 12 establishes that AD7c-NTP induced oxidative stress can be counteracted by pharmacologic agents. Results are expressed as the ratio of percent change in viability for experimental (AD7c-NTP induced) over control, uninduced cells. In Figure 12, CYZ cells, stably transfected with AD7c-NTP, are induced to express AD7c-NTP and exposed to various pharmacologic agents. Hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and diethyldithiocarbamic acid (DDC) exacerbate cell death, while agents such pyroglutamate (PG) (and L-NAME and L-arginine) inhibit or reduce the nitric oxide synthase toxicity attributable to AD7c-NTP expression.

From the foregoing description, one skilled in the art can easily ascertain the essential characteristics of this invention, and without departing from the spirit and scope thereof, can make various changes and modifications of the invention to adapt it to various usages and conditions without undue experimentation. All patents, patent applications and publications cited herein are incorporated by reference in their entirety.

-52-

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

(i) APPLICANT: THE GENERAL HOSPITAL CORPORATION
FRUIT STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

APPLICANT/INVENTOR: de la Monte, Suzanne
Wands, Jack R.

(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Transgenic Animals and Cell Lines for
Screening Drugs Effective for the Treatment or Prevention
of Alzheimer's Disease

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 14

(iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:

(A) ADDRESSEE: Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.
(B) STREET: 1100 New York Ave., Suite 600
(C) CITY: Washington
(D) STATE: DC
(E) COUNTRY: USA
(F) ZIP: 20005-3934

(v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:

(A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
(B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
(C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
(D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.30

(vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:

(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: To be assigned
(B) FILING DATE: Herewith
(C) CLASSIFICATION:

(vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:

(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 60/038,908
(B) FILING DATE: 26-FEB-1997

(viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:

(A) NAME: Esmond, Robert W.
(B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 32,893
(C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 0609.437PC01

(ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:

(A) TELEPHONE: 202-371-2600
(B) TELEFAX: 202-371-2540

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 1442 base pairs

-53-

(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: both

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 (B) LOCATION: 15..1139

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

TTTTTTTTTT	TGAG	ATG	GAG	TTT	TCG	CTC	TTG	TTG	CCC	AGG	CTG	GAG	TGC	50	
	Met	Glu	Phe	Ser	Leu	Leu	Leu	Pro	Arg	Leu	Glu	Cys			
	1				5					10					
AAT	GGC	GCA	ATC	TCA	GCT	CAC	CGC	AAC	CTC	CGC	CTC	CCG	GGT	TCA	AGC
Asn	Gly	Ala	Ile	Ser	Ala	His	Arg	Asn	Leu	Arg	Leu	Pro	Gly	Ser	Ser
	15				20					25					
GAT	TCT	CCT	GCC	TCA	GCC	TCC	CCA	GTA	GCT	GGG	ATT	ACA	GGC	ATG	TGC
Asp	Ser	Pro	Ala	Ser	Ala	Ser	Pro	Val	Ala	Gly	Ile	Thr	Gly	Met	Cys
	30				35				40						
ACC	CAC	GCT	CGG	CTA	ATT	TTG	TAT	TTT	TTT	TTA	GTA	GAG	ATG	GAG	TTT
Thr	His	Ala	Arg	Leu	Ile	Leu	Tyr	Phe	Phe	Leu	Val	Glu	Met	Glu	Phe
	45				50				55				60		
CTC	CAT	GTT	GGT	CAG	GCT	GGT	CTC	GAA	CTC	CCG	ACC	TCA	GAT	GAT	CCC
Leu	His	Val	Gly	Gln	Ala	Gly	Leu	Glu	Leu	Pro	Thr	Ser	Asp	Asp	Pro
			65				70						75		
TCC	GTC	TCG	GCC	TCC	CAA	AGT	GCT	AGA	TAC	AGG	ACT	GGC	CAC	CAT	GCC
Ser	Val	Ser	Ala	Ser	Gln	Ser	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Arg	Thr	Gly	His	His	Ala
			80				85					90			
CGG	CTC	TGC	CTG	GCT	AAT	TTT	TGT	GGT	AGA	AAC	AGG	GTT	TCA	CTG	ATG
Arg	Leu	Cys	Leu	Ala	Asn	Phe	Cys	Gly	Arg	Asn	Arg	Val	Ser	Leu	Met
		95				100					105				
TGC	CCA	AGC	TGG	TCT	CCT	GAG	CTC	AAG	CAG	TCC	ACC	TGC	CTC	AGC	CTC
Cys	Pro	Ser	Trp	Ser	Pro	Glu	Leu	Lys	Gln	Ser	Thr	Cys	Leu	Ser	Leu
	110				115					120					
CCA	AAG	TGC	TGG	GAT	TAC	AGG	CGT	GCA	GCC	GTG	CCT	GGC	CTT	TTT	ATT
Pro	Lys	Cys	Trp	Asp	Tyr	Arg	Arg	Ala	Ala	Val	Pro	Gly	Leu	Phe	Ile
	125			130				135					140		
TTA	TTT	TTT	TTA	AGA	CAC	AGG	TGT	CCC	ACT	CTT	ACC	CAG	GAT	GAA	GTG
Leu	Phe	Phe	Leu	Arg	His	Arg	Cys	Pro	Thr	Leu	Thr	Gln	Asp	Glu	Val
			145				150						155		
CAG	TGG	TGT	GAT	CAC	AGC	TCA	CTG	CAG	CCT	TCA	ACT	CCT	GAG	ATC	AAG
Gln	Trp	Cys	Asp	His	Ser	Ser	Leu	Gln	Pro	Ser	Thr	Pro	Glu	Ile	Lys

-54-

160										165					170					
CAT	CCT	CCT	GCC	TCA	GCC	TCC	CAA	GTA	GCT	GGG	ACC	AAA	GAC	ATG	CAC	578				
His	Pro	Pro	Ala	Ser	Ala	Ser	Gln	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr	Lys	Asp	Met	His					
		175					180					185								
CAC	TAC	ACC	TGG	CTA	ATT	TTT	ATT	TTT	ATT	TTT	AAT	TTT	TTG	AGA	CAG	626				
His	Tyr	Thr	Trp	Leu	Ile	Phe	Ile	Phe	Ile	Phe	Asn	Phe	Leu	Arg	Gln					
	190					195					200									
AGT	CTC	AAC	TCT	GTC	ACC	CAG	GCT	GGA	GTG	CAG	TGG	CGC	AAT	CTT	GGC	674				
Ser	Leu	Asn	Ser	Val	Thr	Gln	Ala	Gly	Val	Gln	Trp	Arg	Asn	Leu	Gly					
205					210						215				220					
TCA	CTG	CAA	CCT	CTG	CCT	CCC	GGG	TTC	AAG	TTA	TTC	TCC	TGC	CCC	AGC	722				
Ser	Leu	Gln	Pro	Leu	Pro	Pro	Gly	Phe	Lys	Leu	Phe	Ser	Cys	Pro	Ser					
				225					230					235						
CTC	CTG	AGT	AGC	TGG	GAC	TAC	AGG	CGC	CCA	CCA	CGC	CTA	GCT	AAT	TTT	770				
Leu	Leu	Ser	Ser	Trp	Asp	Tyr	Arg	Arg	Pro	Pro	Arg	Leu	Ala	Asn	Phe					
			240					245					250							
TTT	GTA	TTT	TTA	GTA	GAG	ATG	GGG	TTC	ACC	ATG	TTC	GCC	AGG	TTG	ATC	818				
Phe	Val	Phe	Leu	Val	Glu	Met	Gly	Phe	Thr	Met	Phe	Ala	Arg	Leu	Ile					
		255					260					265								
TTG	ATC	TCT	GGA	CCT	TGT	GAT	CTG	CCT	GCC	TCG	GCC	TCC	CAA	AGT	GCT	866				
Leu	Ile	Ser	Gly	Pro	Cys	Asp	Leu	Pro	Ala	Ser	Ala	Ser	Gln	Ser	Ala					
	270					275						280								
GGG	ATT	ACA	GGC	GTG	AGC	CAC	CAC	GCC	CGG	CTT	ATT	TTT	AAT	TTT	TGT	914				
Gly	Ile	Thr	Gly	Val	Ser	His	His	Ala	Arg	Leu	Ile	Phe	Asn	Phe	Cys					
285					290						295				300					
TTG	TTT	GAA	ATG	GAA	TCT	CAC	TCT	GTT	ACC	CAG	GCT	GGA	GTG	CAA	TGG	962				
Leu	Phe	Glu	Met	Glu	Ser	His	Ser	Val	Thr	Gln	Ala	Gly	Val	Gln	Trp					
				305					310					315						
CCA	AAT	CTC	GGC	TCA	CTG	CAA	CCT	CTG	CCT	CCC	GGG	CTC	AAG	CGA	TTC	1010				
Pro	Asn	Leu	Gly	Ser	Leu	Gln	Pro	Leu	Pro	Pro	Gly	Leu	Lys	Arg	Phe					
			320					325					330							
TCC	TGT	CTC	AGC	CTC	CCA	AGC	AGC	TGG	GAT	TAC	GGG	CAC	CTG	CCA	CCA	1058				
Ser	Cys	Leu	Ser	Leu	Pro	Ser	Ser	Trp	Asp	Tyr	Gly	His	Leu	Pro	Pro					
		335					340					345								
CAC	CCC	GCT	AAT	TTT	TGT	ATT	TTC	ATT	AGA	GGC	GGG	GTT	TCA	CCA	TAT	1106				
His	Pro	Ala	Asn	Phe	Cys	Ile	Phe	Ile	Arg	Gly	Gly	Val	Ser	Pro	Tyr					
	350					355					360									
TTG	TCA	GGC	TGG	TCT	CAA	ACT	CCT	GAC	CTC	AGG	TGACCCACCT	GCCTCAGCCT				1159				
Leu	Ser	Gly	Trp	Ser	Gln	Thr	Pro	Asp	Leu	Arg										
365					370				375											
TC	CA	AAGTGC	TGGGATTACA	GGCGTGAGCC	ACCTCACCCA	GCCGGCTAAT	TTAGATAAAA									1219				

-55-

AAATATGTAG CAATGGGGGG TCTTGCTATG TTGCCCAGGC TGGTCTCAA CTTCTGGCTT 1279
 CATGCAATCC TTCCAAATGA GCCACAACAC CCAGCCAGTC ACATTTTTTA AACAGTTACA 1339
 TCTTTATTTT AGTATACTAG AAAGTAATAC AATAAACATG TCAAACCTGC AAATTTCAGTA 1399
 GTAACAGAGT TCTTTTATAA CTTTAAACA AAGCTTTAGA GCA 1442

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 375 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

Met Glu Phe Ser Leu Leu Leu Pro Arg Leu Glu Cys Asn Gly Ala Ile
 1 5 10 15
 Ser Ala His Arg Asn Leu Arg Leu Pro Gly Ser Ser Asp Ser Pro Ala
 20 25 30
 Ser Ala Ser Pro Val Ala Gly Ile Thr Gly Met Cys Thr His Ala Arg
 35 40 45
 Leu Ile Leu Tyr Phe Phe Leu Val Glu Met Glu Phe Leu His Val Gly
 50 55 60
 Gln Ala Gly Leu Glu Leu Pro Thr Ser Asp Asp Pro Ser Val Ser Ala
 65 70 75 80
 Ser Gln Ser Ala Arg Tyr Arg Thr Gly His His Ala Arg Leu Cys Leu
 85 90 95
 Ala Asn Phe Cys Gly Arg Asn Arg Val Ser Leu Met Cys Pro Ser Trp
 100 105 110
 Ser Pro Glu Leu Lys Gln Ser Thr Cys Leu Ser Leu Pro Lys Cys Trp
 115 120 125
 Asp Tyr Arg Arg Ala Ala Val Pro Gly Leu Phe Ile Leu Phe Phe Leu
 130 135 140
 Arg His Arg Cys Pro Thr Leu Thr Gln Asp Glu Val Gln Trp Cys Asp
 145 150 155 160
 His Ser Ser Leu Gln Pro Ser Thr Pro Glu Ile Lys His Pro Pro Ala
 165 170 175
 Ser Ala Ser Gln Val Ala Gly Thr Lys Asp Met His His Tyr Thr Trp
 180 185 190

-56-

Leu Ile Phe Ile Phe Ile Phe Asn Phe Leu Arg Gln Ser Leu Asn Ser
 195 200 205
 Val Thr Gln Ala Gly Val Gln Trp Arg Asn Leu Gly Ser Leu Gln Pro
 210 215 220
 Leu Pro Pro Gly Phe Lys Leu Phe Ser Cys Pro Ser Leu Leu Ser Ser
 225 230 235 240
 Trp Asp Tyr Arg Arg Pro Pro Arg Leu Ala Asn Phe Phe Val Phe Leu
 245 250 255
 Val Glu Met Gly Phe Thr Met Phe Ala Arg Leu Ile Leu Ile Ser Gly
 260 265 270
 Pro Cys Asp Leu Pro Ala Ser Ala Ser Gln Ser Ala Gly Ile Thr Gly
 275 280 285
 Val Ser His His Ala Arg Leu Ile Phe Asn Phe Cys Leu Phe Glu Met
 290 295 300
 Glu Ser His Ser Val Thr Gln Ala Gly Val Gln Trp Pro Asn Leu Gly
 305 310 315 320
 Ser Leu Gln Pro Leu Pro Pro Gly Leu Lys Arg Phe Ser Cys Leu Ser
 325 330 335
 Leu Pro Ser Ser Trp Asp Tyr Gly His Leu Pro Pro His Pro Ala Asn
 340 345 350
 Phe Cys Ile Phe Ile Arg Gly Gly Val Ser Pro Tyr Leu Ser Gly Trp
 355 360 365
 Ser Gln Thr Pro Asp Leu Arg
 370 375

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1381 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
- (D) TOPOLOGY: both

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

TTTTTTTTTT GAGATGGAGT TTTCGCTCTT GTGCCCAGG CTGGAGTGCA ATGGCGCAAT 60
 CTCAGCTCAC CGCAACCTCC GCCTCCCGGG TTCAAGCGAT TCTCCTGCCT CAGCCTCCCC 120
 AGTAGCTGGG ATTACAGGCA TGTGCACCAC GCTCGGCTAA TTTTGTATTT TTTTITAGTA 180

-57-

GAGATGGAGT TTAAC TCCAT GTTGGTCAGG CTGGTCTCGA ACTCCCGACC TCAGATGATC 240
 TCCCGTCTCG GCCTGCCCCA AGTGCTGAGA TTACAGGCAT GAGCCACCAT GCCCGGCCTC 300
 TGCCTGGCTA ATTTTGTGG TAGAAACAGG GTTTCCTGA GTTGCCCCA GCTGGTCTCC 360
 TGAGCTCAAG CAGTCCACCT GCCTCAGCCT CCCAAAGTGC TGGGATTACA GCGTCAGCC 420
 GTGCCTGGCC TTTTATTTT ATTTT TTTA AGACACAGGT GTACCACTCT TACCCAGGAT 480
 GAAGTGCAGT GGTGTGATCA CAGCTCACTG CAGCCTTCAA CTCCTGAGAT CAAGCAATCC 540
 TCCTGCCTCA GCCTCCCAAG TAGCTGGGAC CAAAGACATG CACCACTACA CCTGGTAATT 600
 TTTATTTTTA TTTTAAATTT TTTGAGACAG AGTCTCACTC TGTCACCAG GCTGGAGTGC 660
 AGTGGCGCAA TCTTGGCTCA CTGCAACCTC TGCCTCCCGG GTTCAAGTTA TTCTCCTGCC 720
 CCAGCCTCCT GAGTAGCTGG GACTACAGGC GCCACCACG CCTAGCTAAT TTTTGTGAT 780
 TTTTAGTAGA GATGGGGTTT CACCATGTTC GCCAGGTTGA TCTTGATCTC TTGACCTTGT 840
 GATCTGCCTG CCTCGGCCTA CCCAAAGTGC TGGGATTACA GGTCGTGACT CCACGCCGGC 900
 CTATTTTAA TTTTGTGTTG TTTGAAATGG AATCTCACTC TGTTACCCAG GTCGGAGTGC 960
 AATGGCAAAT CTCGGCTACT CGCAACCTCT GCCTCCCGGG TCAAGCGATT CTCCTGTCTC 1020
 AGCCTCCCAA GCAGCTGGGA TTACGGGACC TGCACCACAC CCCGCTAATT TTTGTATTTT 1080
 CATTAGAGGC GGGTTTACCA TATTTGTGAG GCTGGGTCTC AAACCTCTGA CCTCAGGTGA 1140
 CCCACCTGCC TCAGCCTTCC AAAGTGCTGG GATTACAGGC GTGAGCCACC TCACCCAGCC 1200
 GGCTAATTTG GAATAAAAAA TATGTAGCAA TGGGGGTCTG CTATGTTGCC CAGGCTGGTC 1260
 TCAAACCTCT GGCTTCAGTC AATCCTTCCA AATGAGCCAC AACACCCAGC CAGTCACATT 1320
 TTTTAAACAG TTACATCTTT ATTTTAGTAT ACTAGAAAGT AATACAATAA ACATGTCAAA 1380
 C 1381

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1418 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: both
- (D) TOPOLOGY: both

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

-58-

TTTTTTTTTT GAGATGGAGT TTTCGCTCTT GTTGCCCAGG CTGGAGTGCA ATGGCGCAAT 60
 CTCAGCTCAC CGCAACCTCC GCCTCCCGGG TTCAAGCGAT TCTCCTGCCT CAGCCTCCCC 120
 AGTAGGCTGG GATTACAGGC ATGTGCACCA CGCTCGGCTA ATTTTGTATT TTTTTTAGT 180
 AGAGATGGAG TTTCTCCATG TTGGTCAGGC TGGTCTCGAA CTCCGACCTC AGATGATCCT 240
 CCCGTCTCGG CCTCCCAAAG TGCTAGATAC AGGACTGAGC ACCATGCCCC GCCTCTGCCT 300
 GGCTAATTTT TGTGGTAGAA ACAGGGTTTC ACTGATGTGC CCAAGCTGGT CTCCTGAGCT 360
 CAAGCAGTCC ACCTGCCTCA GCCTCCCAAA GTGCTGGGAT TACAGGCGTG CAGCCGTGCC 420
 TGGCCTTTTT ATTTTATTTT TTTTAAGACA CAGGTGTCCC ACTCTTACCC AGGATGAAGT 480
 GCAGTGGTGT GATCACAGCT CACTGCAGCC TTCAACTCTG AGATCAAGCA TCCTCCTGCC 540
 TCAGCCTCCC AAAGTAGCTG GGACCAAAGA CATGCACCAC TACACCTGGC TAATTTTTAT 600
 TTTTATTTTT AATTTTTTGA GACAGAGTCT CAACTCTGTC ACCCAGGCTG GAGTGCAGTG 660
 GCGCAATCTT GGCTCACTGC AACCTCTGCC TCCCGGGTTC AAGTTATTCT CCTGCCCCAG 720
 CCTCCTGAGT AGCTGGGACT ACAGGCGCCC ACCACGCCTA GCTAATTTTT TTGTATTTTT 780
 AGTAGAGATG GGGTTTCACC ATGTTGCGCA GGTGATGCT AGATCTCTTG ACCTTGTGAT 840
 CTGCCTGCCT CGGCCTCCCA AAGTGCTGGG ATTACAGGAC GTGACGCCCC CCGCCCGGCC 900
 TATTTTAAAT TTTTGTGTTT TTGAAATGGA ATCTACTCT GTTACCCAGG CTGGAGTGCA 960
 ATGGCCAAAT CTCGGCTCAC TGCAACCTCT GCCTCCCGGG CTCAAGCGAT TCTCCTGTCT 1020
 CAGCCTCCCA AGCAGCTGGG ATTACGGGCA CCTGCACCAC ACCCCGCTAA TTTTGTATT 1080
 TTCATTAGAG GCGGGGTTTC ACCATATTTG TCAGGCTGGT CTCAAACCTC TGACCTCAGG 1140
 TGACCCACCT GCCTCAGCCT TCCAAAGTGC TGGGATTACA GGCGTGACGC CTCACCCAGC 1200
 CGGCTAATTT AGATAAAAAA ATATGTAGCA ATGGGGGGTC TTGCTATGTT GCCCAGGCTG 1260
 GTCTCAAAC TCTGGCTTCA TGCAATCCTT CCAATGAGC CACAACACCC AGCCAGTCAC 1320
 ATTTTAAAC AGTTACATCT TTATTTTAGT ATACTAGAAA GTGATACGAT AACATGGCGG 1380
 AACCTGCAAA TTCGAGTAGT ACAGAGTCTT TTATAACT 1418

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 22 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

-59-

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

TGTCCCACTC TTACCCAGGA TG

22

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

AAGCAGGCAG ATCACAAGGT CCAG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 20 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

AATGGATGAC GATATCGCTG

20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 19 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

-60-

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

ATGAGGTAGT CTGTCAGGT

19

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

TTCATCCTGG GTAAGAGTGG GACACCTGTG

30

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 26 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

TGGTGCATGT CTTTGGTCCC AGCTAC

26

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

ATCAACCTGG CGAACATGGT GAACCCCATC

30

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:

-61-

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 14 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

CACTGCACTT NCCA

14

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 14 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

CCAGGTGTAG NCCA

14

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 14 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

CAAGGTCCAG NCCA

14

- 62 -

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A DNA construct, which comprises a DNA molecule of Seq. ID No. 1 or a DNA molecule which is at least 40% homologous thereto, or a fragment thereof, wherein said DNA molecule is under control of a heterologous neuro-specific promoter.
5
2. The DNA construct of claim 1, which is contained within a vector.
3. The DNA construct of claim 1, which is contained by a viron.
4. The DNA construct of claim 1, wherein said DNA molecule has Seq. ID No. 1.
5. A host cell transformed with the DNA construct of claim 1.
10
6. The host cell line of claim 5, which is a neuronal cell.
7. A transgenic non-human animal, all of whose germ and somatic cells comprises the DNA molecule of Seq. ID No. 1 or a DNA molecule which is at least 40% homologous thereto.
15
8. The transgenic non-human animal of claim 7, wherein the DNA molecule contained in each germ and somatic cell has Seq. ID No. 1.
9. The transgenic non-human animal of claim 7, wherein the protein coded for by said DNA molecule is overexpressed in the brain of the animal.
10. An *in vitro* method for screening a candidate drug that is
20 potentially useful for the treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease,

- 63 -

neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas, and glioblastomas, which comprises

- (a) contacting a candidate drug with the host cell line of claim 5, and
- (b) detecting at least one of the following:

- 5 (i) the suppression or prevention of expression of the protein coded for by the DNA construct;
 - (ii) the increased degradation of the protein coded for by the DNA construct; or
 - 10 (iii) the reduction of frequency of at least one of neuritic sprouting, nerve cell death, degenerating neurons, neurofibrillary tangles, or irregular swollen neurites and axons in the host;
- due to the drug candidate compared to a control cell line which has not contacted the candidate drug.

- 15 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said protein has Seq. ID No. 2.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said protein is over-expressed by said host cell.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein said cell is a neuronal cell.

- 20 14. An *in vivo* method for screening a candidate drug that is potentially useful for the treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease, neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas, and glioblastomas, which comprises

- (a) administering a candidate drug to the transgenic animal of claim 7, and

- (b) detecting at least one of the following:

- 25 (i) the suppression or prevention of expression of the protein coded for by the DNA construct contained by said animal;

- 64 -

- (ii) the increased degradation of the protein coded for by the DNA construct contained by said animal; or
- (iii) the reduction of frequency of at least one of neuritic sprouting, nerve cell death, degenerating neurons, neurofibrillary tangles, or irregular swollen neurites and axons in the host;

due to the drug candidate compared to a control animal which has not received the candidate drug.

10 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the DNA construct contained by said animal has Seq. ID No. 1.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the protein coded for by the DNA construct contained by said animal is over-expressed in the brain of said animal.

15 17. An antisense oligonucleotide which is complementary to an NTP mRNA sequence corresponding to nucleotides 150-1139 of Seq. ID No. 1.

18. The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 17, which is a 15 to 40-mer.

19. The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 17, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is selected from the group consisting of Seq ID Nos. 9 to 11.

20 20. The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 17, which is deoxyribonucleic acid.

21. The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 17, which is a deoxyribonucleic acid phosphorothioate.

- 65 -

22. The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 17, which is a derivative of a deoxyribonucleic acid or a deoxyribonucleic acid phosphorothioate.

23. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antisense oligonucleotide of claim 17 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

5 24. A ribozyme comprising a target sequence which is complementary to an NTP mRNA sequence corresponding to nucleotides 150-1139 of Seq. ID No. 1.

25. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the ribozyme of claim 24 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10 26. An oligodeoxynucleotide that forms triple stranded regions with the a region of AD7c-NTP coding nucleic acid and having the sequence 3'X5'-L-5'X3', wherein X comprises an AD7c-NTP nucleic acid sequence corresponding to nucleotides 150-1139 of Seq. ID No. 1, and wherein L represents an oligonucleotide linker or a bond.

15 27. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the oligodeoxynucleotide of claim 26 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20 28. An oligodeoxynucleotide that forms triple stranded regions with the a region of AD7c-NTP coding nucleic acid and having the sequence 5'X3'-L-3'X5', wherein X comprises an AD7c-NTP nucleic acid sequence corresponding to nucleotides 150-1139 of Seq. ID No. 1, and wherein L represents an oligonucleotide linker or a bond.

29. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the oligodeoxynucleotide of claim 28 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

- 66 -

30. A ribonucleotide external guide nucleic acid molecule, comprising, a 10-mer nucleotide sequence corresponding to nucleotides 150-1139 of Seq. ID No. 1 fused to a 3'NCCA nucleotide sequence, wherein N is a purine.

31. The ribonucleotide external guide nucleic acid molecule of claim 30 which is selected from the group consisting of any one of Seq. ID Nos. 12 to 14.

32. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the ribonucleotide of claim 30 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

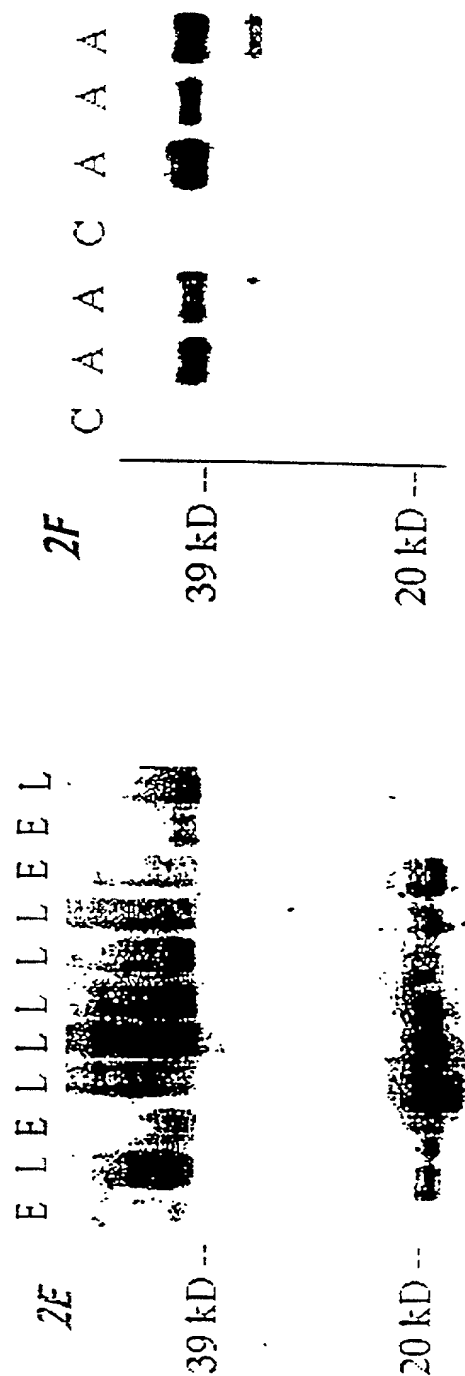
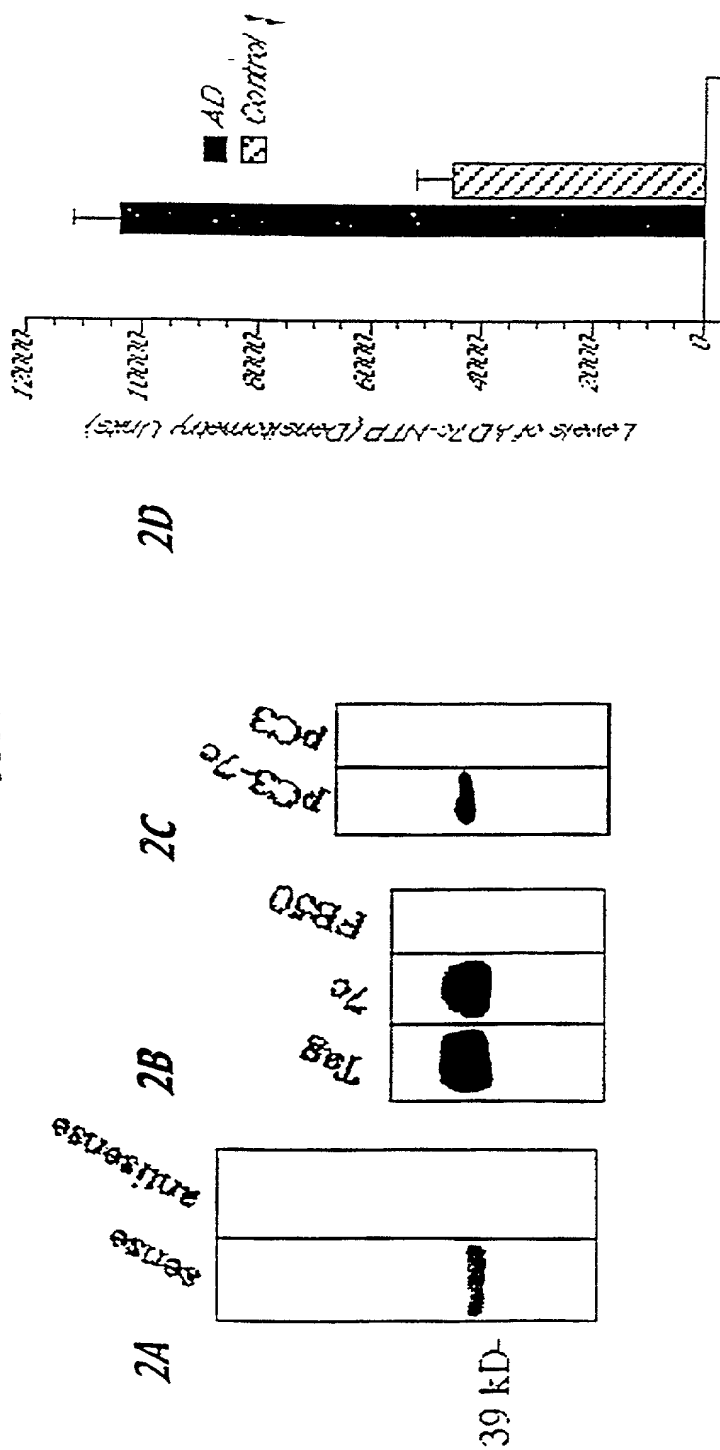
33. A method for to treat or prevent dementias of the Alzheimer's type of neuronal degeneration; or to treat or prevent neuroectodermal tumors, malignant astrocytomas, or glioblastomas, comprising administering to an animal in need thereof an antisense oligonucleotide, a ribozyme, a triple helix-forming oligonucleotide or an ribonucleotide external guide sequence of any one of claims 17, 24, 26, 28, or 30.

34. The method of claim 32, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide, ribozyme, triple helix-forming oligonucleotide or ribonucleotide external guide sequence is administered to said animal as part of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

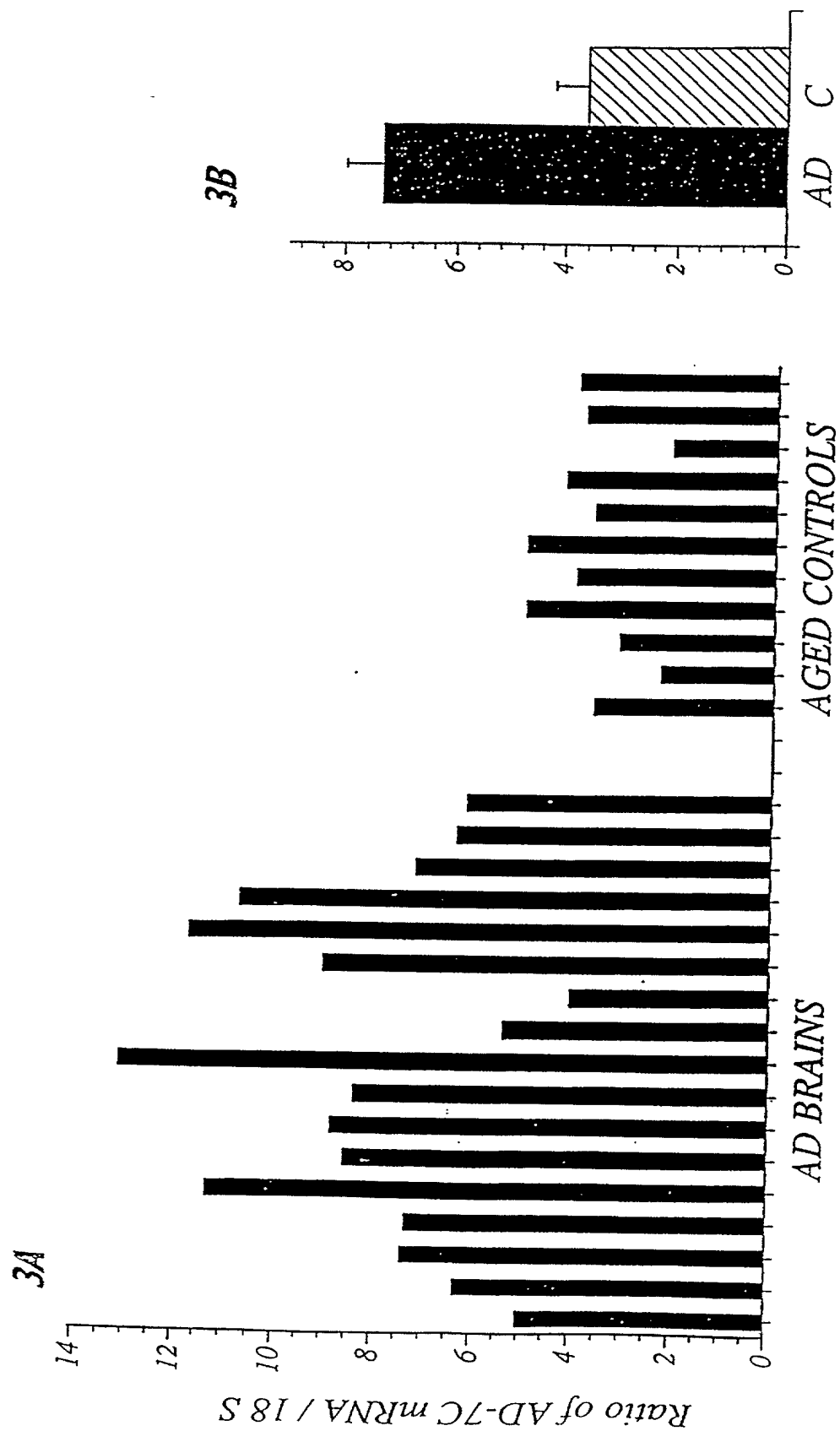
1	TTTTTTTTTTTgag	ATG GAG TTT TCG CTC TTG TTG CCC AGG CTG GAG TGC AAC GGC GCA ATC	62
1	M E F S L L L P R L E C N G A I	16	
63	TCA GCT CAC CGC AAC CTC CGC CTC CCG GGT TCA AGC GAT TCT CCT GCC TCA GCC TCC CCA	122	
17	S A H R N L R L P G S S D S P A S A S P	36	
123	GTA GCT GGG ATT ACA GGC ATG TGC ACC CAC GCT CGG CTA ATT TTG TAT TTT TTT TTA GTA	182	
37	V A G I T G M C T H A R L I L Y F F L V	56	
183	GAG ATG GAG TTT CTC CAT GTT GGT CAG GCT GGT CTC GAA CTC CGG ACC TCA GAT GAT CCC	242	
57	E M E F L H V G Q A G L E L P T S D D P	76	
243	TCC GTC TCG GCC TCC CAA AGT GCT AGA TAC AGG ACT GGC CAC CAT GCC CGG CTC TGC CTG	302	
77	S V S A S Q S A R Y R T G H H A R L C L	96	
303	GCT AAT TTT TGT GGT AGA AAC AGG GTT TCA CTG ATG TGC CCA AGC TGG TCT CCT GAG CTC	362	
97	A N F C G R N R V S L M C P S W S P E L	116	
363	AAG CAG TCC ACC TGC CTC AGC CTC CCA AAG TGC TGG GAT TAC AGG CGT GCA GCC GTG CCT	422	
117	K Q S T C L S L P K C W D Y R R A A V P	136	
423	GGC CTT TTT ATT TTA TTT TTT TTA AGA CAC AGG TGT TGG ACT GAG TAC TAG GAA GAA CTG	482	
137	G L F I L F F L R H R C P T L T O D E V	156	
483	GAG TGG TGT TGA TAA AGC TGA TGG TGC TCT TAT TAT TCA GAG TAC TAC TAT TAT TAT TAT	542	
157	Q W C D H S S L Q P S T P E I K H P P A	176	
543	TCA GGC TGG GAA GAA GGT GGT AGC AAA GAA TAT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT	602	
177	S A S Q V A G T K D M H H Y T W L I F I	196	
603	TTT ATT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT	662	
197	F I F N F L R Q S L N S V T Q A G V Q W	216	
663	GGG AAT ACT TCC TCA TGC GAA GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT GGT	722	
217	R N L G H L Q P L P P G F K L F S C P S	236	
723	GAG TGT GAT TAC GAG TGC GAG TGC GAG TGC GAG TGC GAG TGC GAG TGC GAG TGC GAG TGC	782	
237	L L S S W D Y R R P P R L A N F F V F L	256	
783	TAT GAG TAT GAG TAT GAG TAT GAG TAT GAG TAT GAG TAT GAG TAT GAG TAT GAG TAT GAG	842	
257	V E M G F T M F A R L I L I S G P C D L	276	
843	CCT GGC TGC GCC TCC CAA AGT GCT GGG ATT ACA GGC GTG AGC CAC CAC GCC CGG CTT ATT	902	
277	P A S A S Q S A G I T G V S H H A R L I	296	
903	TTT AAT TTT TGT TTG TTT GAA ATG GAA TCT CAC TCT GTT ACC CAG GCT GGA GTG CAA TGG	962	
297	F N F C L F E M E S H S V T Q A G V Q W	316	
963	CCA AAT CTC GGC TCA CTG CAA CCT CTG CCT CCC GGG CTC AAG CGA TTC TCC TGT CTC AGC	1022	
317	P N L G S L Q P L P P G L K R F S C L S	336	
1023	CTC CCA AGC AGC TGG GAT TAC GGG CAC CTG CCA CCA CAC CCC GCT AAT TTT TGT ATT TTC	1082	
337	L P S S W D Y G H L P P H P A N F C I F	356	
1083	ATT AGA GGC GGG GTT TCA CCA TAT TTG TCA GGC TGG TCT CAA ACT CCT GAC CTC AGG tga	1143	
357	I R G G V S P Y L S G W S Q T P D L R	375	
1144	ccacctgcctcagccttccaaagtgtggattacaggcgtagccacctcaccagccggctaatttagataaaaaaat	1223	
1224	atgtagcaatggggggtcttgctatgttgcccaggctgggtctcaaacttctggcttcgatgcaatccttccaaatgagcca	1303	
1304	caacaccagccagtcacattttttaaacagttacatcttttatcttagtatactagaaaagtaataacaataaacatgtcaa	1383	
1384	acctgcaaaattcagtagtaaacagagttcttttataacttttaaacaagaagcttttagagca	1442	

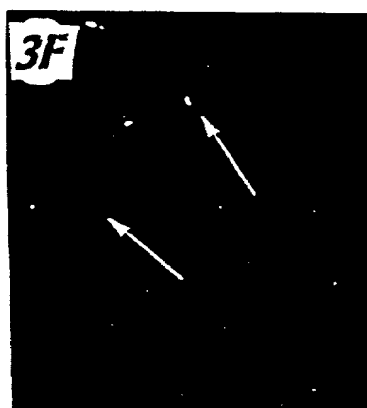
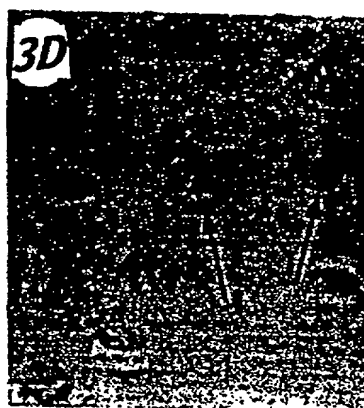
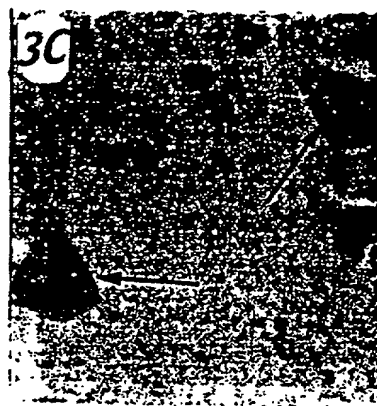
FIG. 1

FIGS. 2A-2F



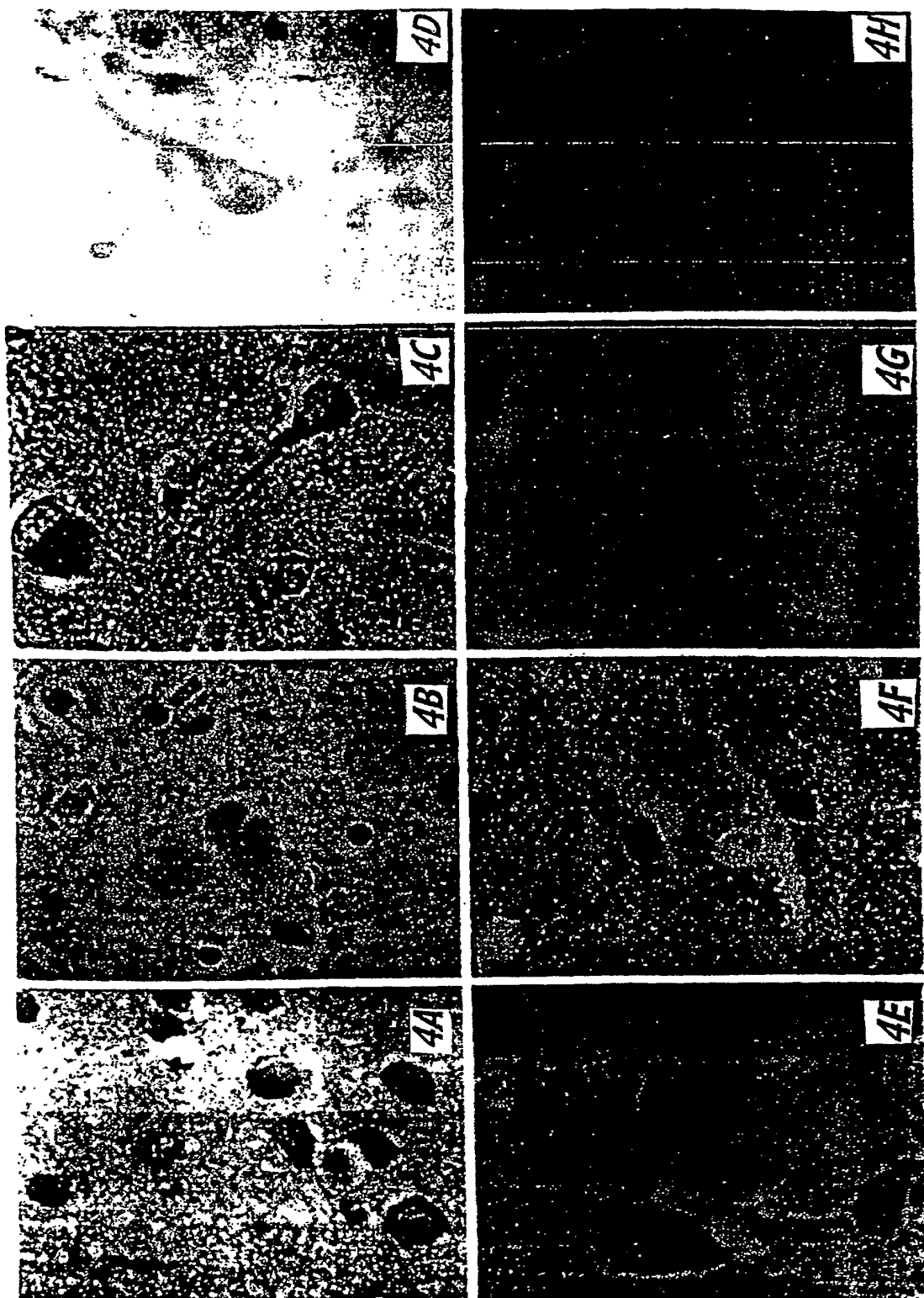
FIGS. 3A-3B



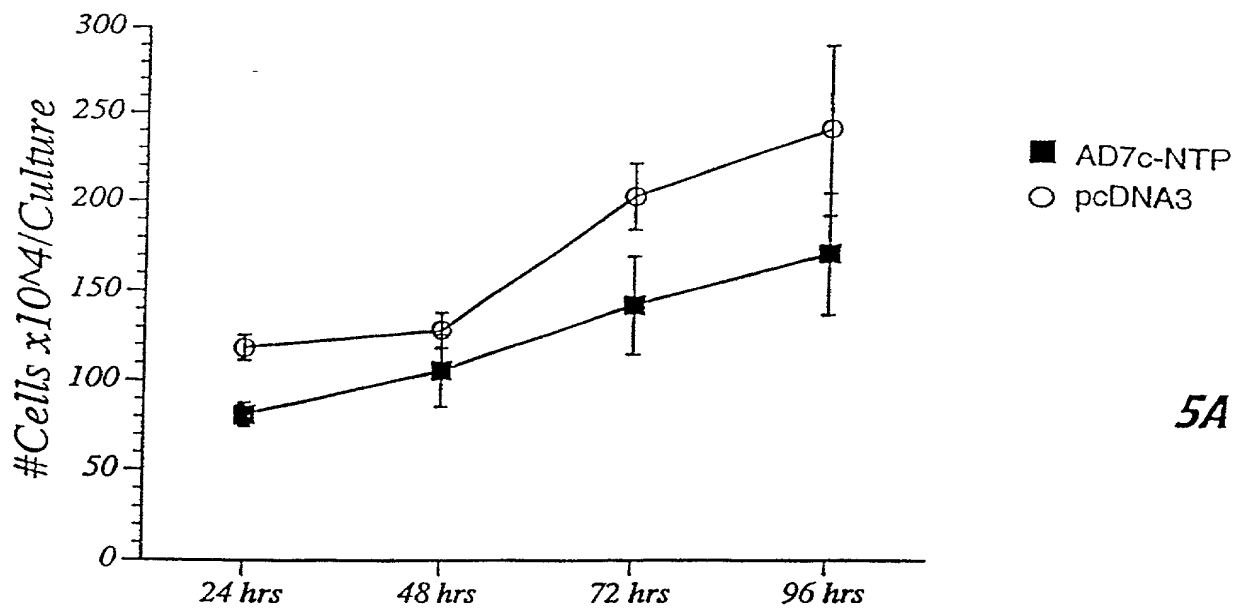
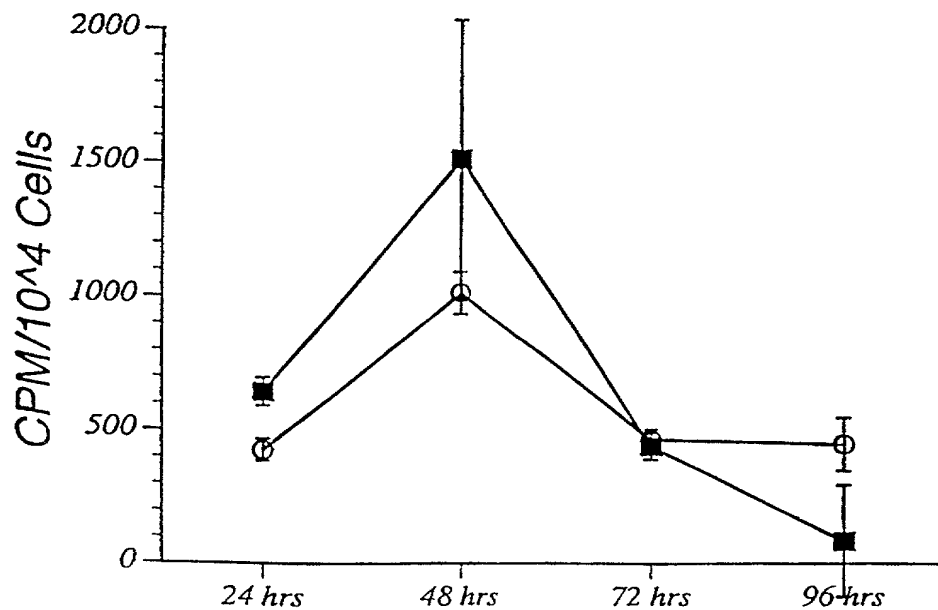


FIGS. 3C-3F

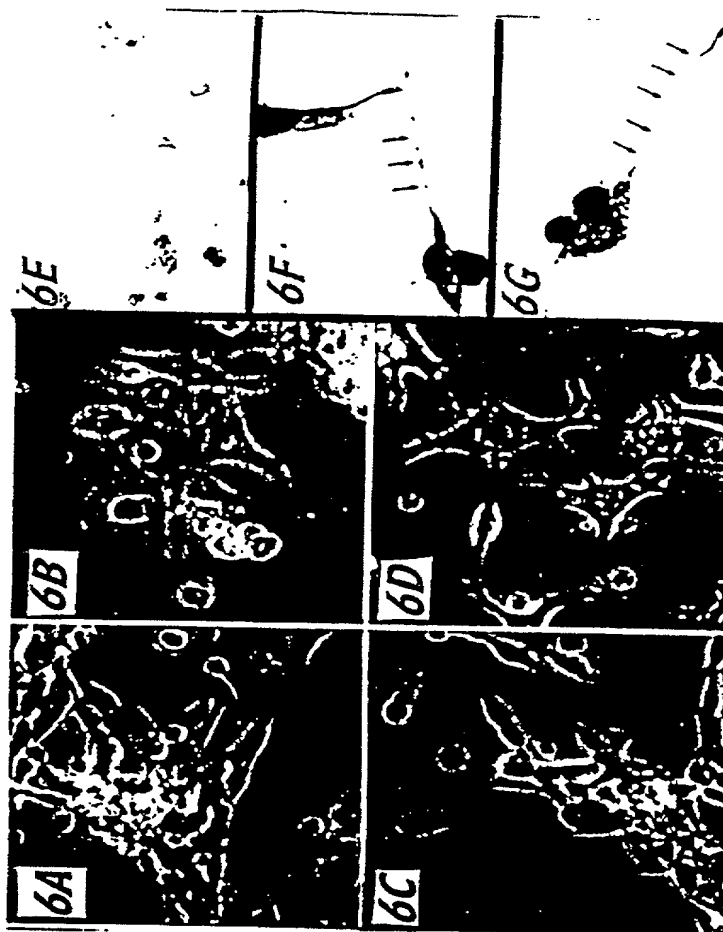
FIGS. 4A-4H



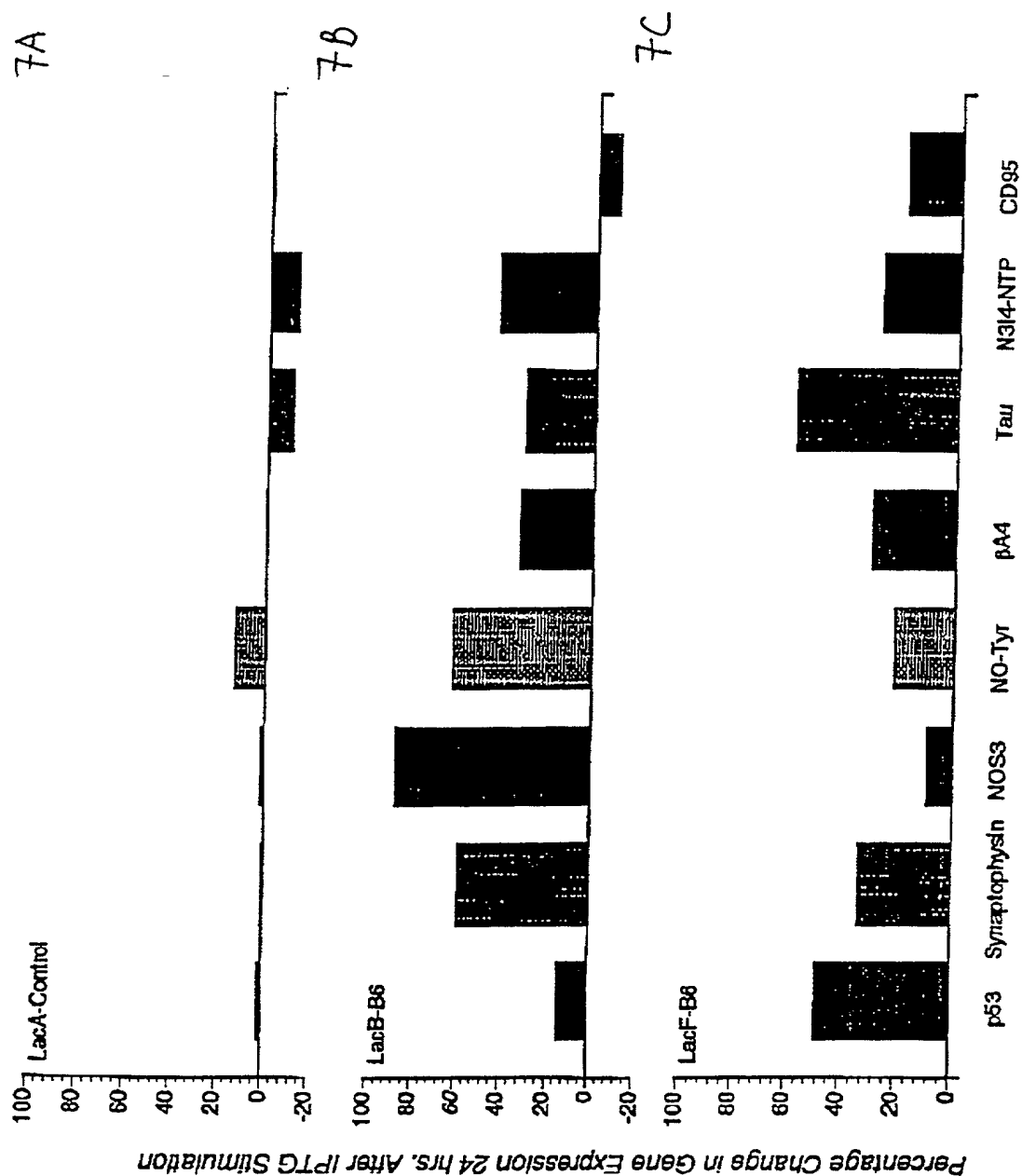
6/13

Growth of SH-Sy5y Cells**5A** 3 H-Thymidine Incorporation**5B****FIGS. 5A-5B**

FIGS. 6A-6G

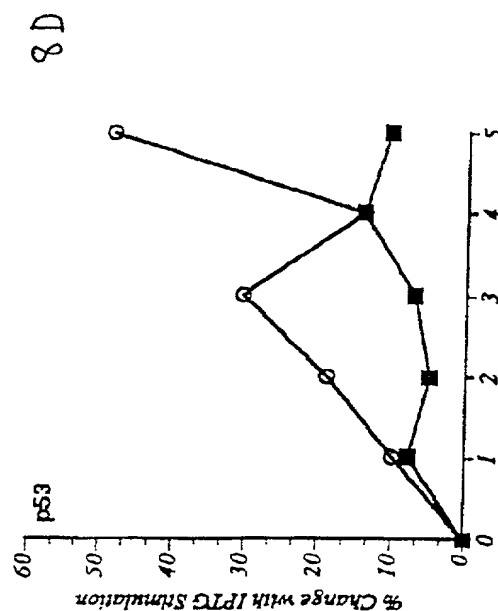
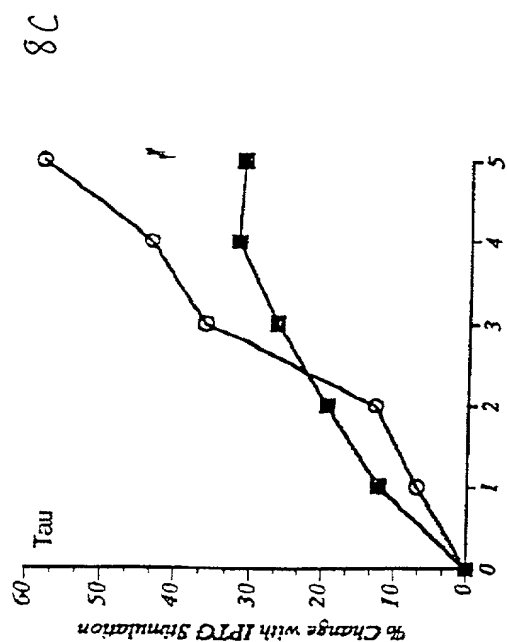
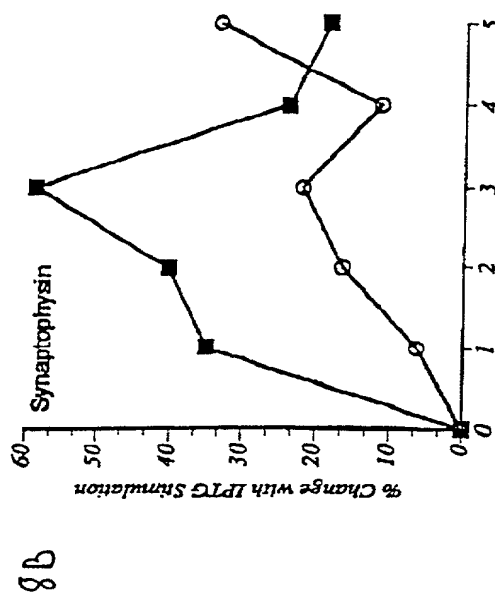
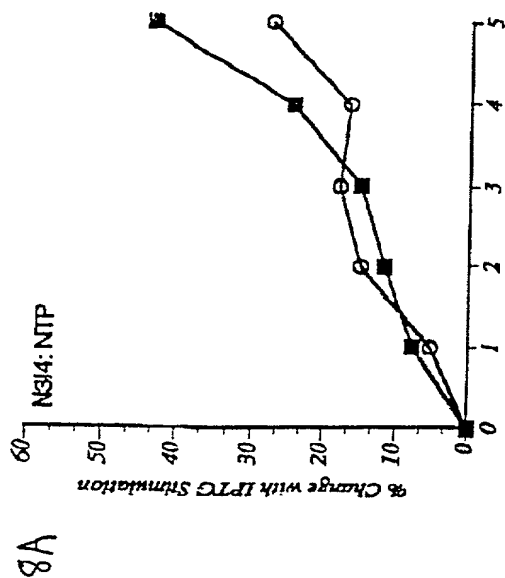


FIGS. 7A-7C

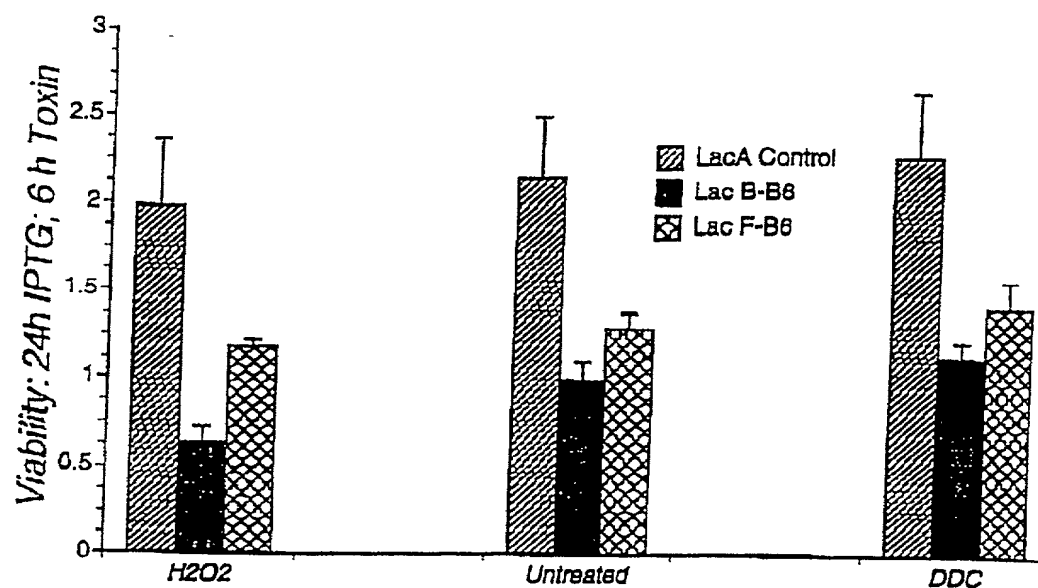


9/13

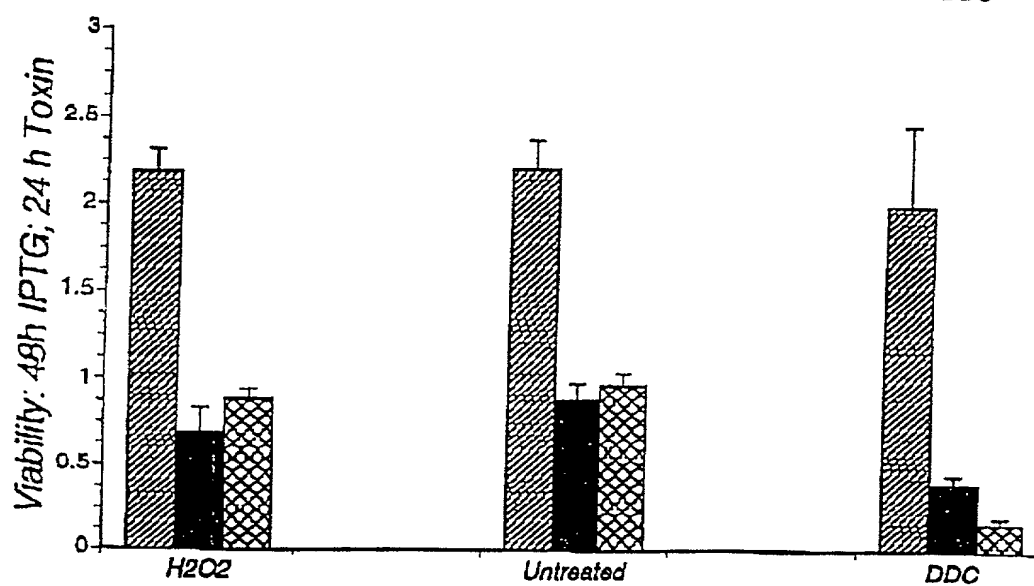
FIGS. 8A-8D



10A



10B



FIGS. 10A-10B

FIG. 11

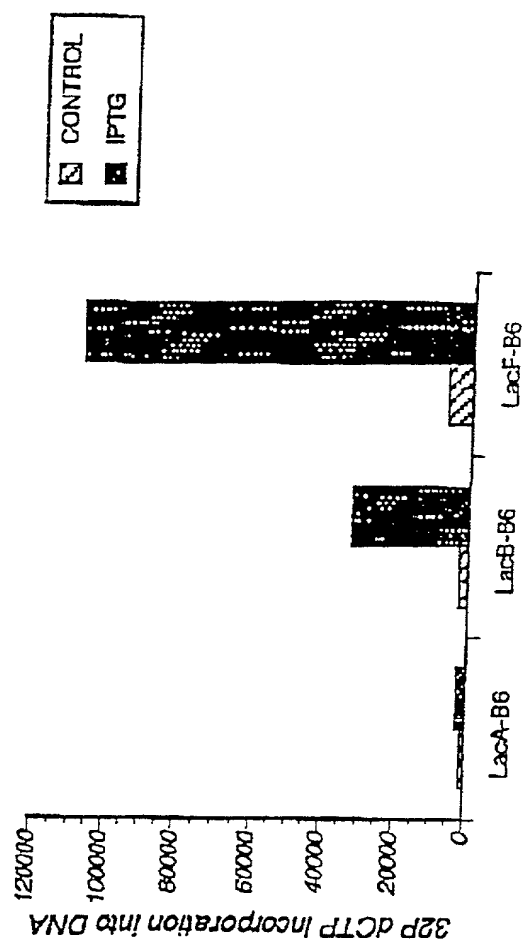
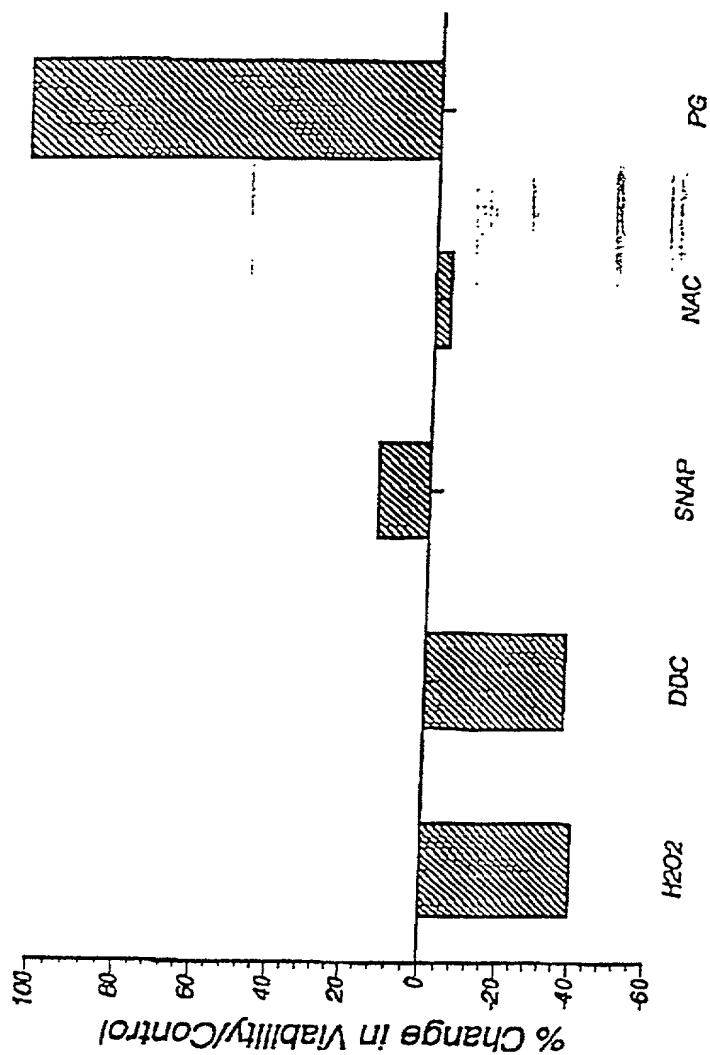


FIG. 12



Declaration for Patent Application

Appl. No.: 09/380,203
Docket No.: 0609.4370001/RWE/KKV
MGH Ref. No.: 1177.1 US

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **Transgenic Animals and Cell Lines for Screening Drugs Effective for the Treatment or Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease**, the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

- ☒ was filed on August 26, 1999;
as United States Application Number 09/380,203 or PCT International Application Number _____; and
was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application, which designated at least one country other than the United States listed below, and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed	
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
(Application No.)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)		
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
(Application No.)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)		

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

<u>60/038,908</u>	<u>February 26, 1997</u>
(Application No.)	(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or under § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 that became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

<u>PCT/US98/03685</u>	<u>February 26, 1998</u>	<u>abandoned</u>
(Application No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status - patented, pending, abandoned)

Send Correspondence to:

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934

Direct Telephone Calls to:

(202) 371-2600

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor	Suzanne De La Monte	
Signature of sole or first inventor	<i>X [Signature]</i>	<i>X [Signature]</i> Date
Residence	East Greenwich, RI <i>RI</i>	
Citizenship	United States	
Post Office Address	1040 High Hawk Road, East Greenwich, RI 02818	
Full name of second inventor	Jack R. Wands	
Signature of second inventor	<i>JR Wands</i>	<i>4/10/00</i> Date
Residence	Waban, MA <i>MA</i>	
Citizenship	United States	
Post Office Address	210 Varick Road, Waban, MA 02168	

(Supply similar information and signature for subsequent joint inventors, if any)
SKGF Rev 9/2/98 msc

P:\USERS\kvidovic\0609\4370001\F99-54.pcd